THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XXXIII., No. 887. SHANGHAI, JULY 4, 1884. PRICE, TLS. 12 PER AN.

CONTENTS.

Advertisements—Latest dates—Births, Marriages, and Deaths, &c.
Arrivals and Departures of Passengers, Shipping, &c.

LEADING ARTICLE—
Administration in Manchuria 1

SUMMARY OF NEWS 2

MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES—
The New Policy at Peking 6
The French Version of the Liang-shan Affair 6
The Chinese Version 7
The Actual Situation 8
Ancient Chinese Tombs 8

Reviews—
The French-mail Papers 9

OUTPORTS, &c.—
Visit of H.E. Li Hung-chang to the French Admiral Lespes at Chefoo ... 10
Peking 11
Hangchow 11
Nanking 11
Tokio 11
From Shansi to Yunnan 12
Haiphong 12

PEKING GAZETTES 13

OFFICIAL PAPER—
France and China—Protest against the Preliminary Treaty 16

MEETING—
Municipal Council 17

AMUSEMENTS—
Cricket—Under v. Over Five Years in the East 18
S.V.C., No. 4 Co. Rifle Competition ... 18

CORRESPONDENCE—
The Coinage Question 18
The Bonin Islands 19
Proposed Tax on Opium Lands 19

LAW REPORTS—
H.B.M.'s Supreme Court—
J. A. Taylor v. F. H. Bell and others and the North-China Insurance Co... 19
Mixed Court—
Charge of plundering by the crew of the *Posang* 21

MISCELLANEOUS—
France and Cambodia 22

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE AND WEEKLY SUMMARY—
Market Reports 24
Exchange Quotations 28
Share Quotations, &c. 28

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

LATEST MAIL DATES.

England.....	May 23	Bankok.....	June 30
San Francisco	27	Yokohama.....	28
Hongkong, ...	June 29	Nagasaki.....	July 1
Tientsin, ...	29	Foochow, ...	June 24

The English mail of 16th May arrived in London on the 30th June.

BIRTH.

On the 19th June, at Southsea, England, the wife of Lieutenant CHARLES HENRY COKE, R.N., of a daughter.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer. 9 A.M.	Barometer. Attached Therm.	Thermometer in shade. Max.	Thermometer in shade. Min.	Hygrometer at 9 A.M. Dry bulb.	Hygrometer at 9 A.M. Wet bulb.	Wind. Force.	Wind. Direction.	Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
Jun	"	"	°	°	°	°			
28	29.80	70.0	78.0	68.0	69.5	66.0	1	East	..
29	29.76	72.0	76.0	67.5	72.0	70.0	3	"	..
30	29.72	73.0	75.0	72.0	73.0	71.5	5	E.N.E.	..
July									
1	29.80	70.0	74.0	68.0	70.0	68.0	2	W.N.	..
2	29.91	72.0	73.0	68.0	72.0	69.0	0	N.	..
3	29.93	73.0	76.5	70.0	75.0	72.0	3	S.E.	..
4	30.00	77.5	80.0	74.0	77.0	76.0	3	"	..

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (dull) r. rain t. snow; th. thunder; x. calm. Force from 1 to 21 estimated.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, FRIDAY, JULY 4, 1884.

IT is indeed a most undeniable truth that the ways of Chinese officialdom are past finding out, and the more one studies the *Peking Gazette* the more strongly is the conviction borne home that the provincial administration of the Empire is based upon radically vicious principles. To understand the most apparently simple Edict or Memorial requires a power of reading between the lines possessed, perhaps, by scarcely any foreigner in China; even the Chinese, not versed in the intricacies of official chicanery, are likely to be misled. We constantly find false charges preferred against provincial officers as an act of private revenge, and true charges condemned as false by Imperially-appointed investigators for considerations which do not appear in their reports. Under which of these categories the following case ought to be relegated is a question of much interest to all who watch the workings of Chinese official life.

Some weeks ago, a long, formal, and most detailed complaint was made to the Emperor, by one Tê-ng Pei-ch'i, of the alleged malfeasances of a Tao-t'ai stationed at or near Moukden in the province of Shêngking. The Memorialist begins by saying that the people of Manchuria are simple and easily governed, and that if ever they have proved restive it has been the fault of their governors. That, formerly, the mandarins there contented themselves with plundering the rich, now, however, they plunder the poor, and of these unjust rulers none has ever been more shamelessly flagitious than this Tao-t'ai. Then we have a list of his crimes. He was originally in Jehol, where he earned an evil reputation. Then he was transferred to Shêngking, where he had to superintendend the colonization and taxation of the new country, and the collection of duties on goods. No one, were he rich or poor, could escape his extortions. Things were taxed over and over again. Corn, for instance, had first to pay duty as grain, then, after being ground, as flour; goods had to pay duty while in first hands, then again upon the sale, and finally after having been sold. The very scales in which the goods were weighed were taxed, as well as the carts that carried them and the shop-windows in which they were exposed. The commonest and most trivial articles of daily use were also taxed, and there was a saying that all the babies had to be taxed within seven days of their coming into the world. Everybody and everything was taxed everywhere. The country was intersected in all directions with barriers, and the barriers were kept by relations of the Tao-t'ai, who speedily amassed fortunes. One comfortable income seems to have been made out of a charge for renewing the thorns on the top of the prison-walls, which is very much as if a magistrate at home were to tax everybody in the neighbourhood on the plea of keeping the gaol well supplied with fragments of broken bottles. This clever person further invested in silver at the Government rate, and then forced merchants to take it back at a handsome profit, pushing his depredations so far as to secretly increase the duties charged at the Corean Custom-house and then pretend that the receipts were falling off. A few years ago he is said to have been entrusted with Tls. 150,000 to purchase ships and munitions of war, and this amount he is openly accused of having stolen bodily. In fact, says the Memorialist, the result of his administration has been to depopulate the country more even than was done by the mounted brigands which infested it, and he has brought himself, his superiors, and his subordinates into universal execration. Now here are charges, shocking enough, and distinct enough; they are deliberately made by an officer of responsibility; they implicate to a certain extent the Governor of the Province; and they appeal for support to the voice of the whole people and the alleged wretched condition of the newly colon-

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

ised territory. Thereupon the Emperor, in answer to the prayer of the Memorialist to despatch a high officer of "marked honesty, ability, and energy," to make searching enquiry into the matter, sends a Commissioner; and the result is that no further notice is to be taken of it, as "there is no truth in any of the charges." It is true that a few abuses were acknowledged, and a Superintendent of Customs dismissed the service; but it is evident that the High Commissioner reported favourably about the man here so seriously accused. What, we may ask, is the real state of the case? Bribery and corruption are so universal in China, Chinese ideas of purity and honesty are so radically opposed to ours, that one feels little or no delicacy in coming to the conclusion that there must have been malfeasance somewhere. Either the Tao-t'ai was a rapacious monster, in which case the Commissioner no doubt made him disgorge in order to secure a favourable report to the Emperor, and thereby proved himself as big a scoundrel as the other; or else the Memorialist, by bringing a list of false charges against an innocent man, to gratify his own revenge, or spite, or whatever the motive may have been, was a greater scoundrel than either. To solve the problem one must be able to read between the lines. But, from our point of view, it matters little where the truth lies. Suffice it that there was scoundrelism somewhere, and scoundrelism with which the Central Government is apparently unable to cope. It is remarkable that the author of the charges now condemned as false appears to have gone unpunished. Surely the Government must see that what is wanted to remedy these evils is greater centralisation of power; and that the only way in which that centralisation can ever be brought about is by the extension of railways and telegraphs. At present Viceroys and Governors are too far from Peking; they must be brought nearer, and that, we fear, they will not like.

Summary of News.

The French mail of 23rd May arrived here on the 1st inst. by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Iraouaddy*.

A mail leaves to-morrow morning for Europe by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Peiho*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

(SUPPLIED SOLELY TO "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")
(THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

THE LIANG-SHAN AFFAIR.

London, 27th June.

4,000 Chinese troops have attacked 700 French troops at Langson (Liang Shan). The attack was repulsed.

THE FRENCH DEMAND SATISFACTION.

The French Minister has been instructed to demand satisfaction. The French squadron has been ordered to the Northward, and the return of the French troops has been suspended.

Langson, in the north-east of Tonquin, is apparently some sixty miles from Bacninh and close to the border of Kuangsi. It does not appear to be a place of importance.

THE CHINESE VERSION OF IT.

(SPECIALLY COMMUNICATED TO "N.-C. D. N.")

The local Chinese officials received the following telegram on Saturday evening from Kuangsi:—On the first of the present moon [Monday, the 23rd June,] a French force, without any provocation, arrived in great numbers at a place called Kuan-yin Chiao on the frontier of Kuangsi, peremptorily demanding that the Chinese garrisons stationed there on guard should vacate their positions. The reply made by the commanders of the garrisons was that they could not do so without orders from the Fu-t'ai of the province. The French thereupon immediately opened fire upon the Chinese, who were compelled in self-defence to put themselves in array and return the fire, in order to oppose the French advance.

On the 3rd of the moon [Wednesday] the French commander Tê-in-pei, in breach of the Treaty, made an attack upon the Chinese vanguard, who succeeded in repulsing the invaders. The latter then retired.

THE REFORM BILL.

London, 28th June.

The House of Commons have read for the third time the new Reform Bill.

RENEWAL OF WAR IN TONQUIN.

The French are making vigorous preparations for the resumption of hostilities in Tonquin.

EGYPTIAN AFFAIRS.

The Egyptian Conference has commenced its sittings.

THE SAFETY OF KHARTOUM.

London, 30th June.

A party of pilgrims report that Khartoum was in safety on the 23rd of May.

AFFAIRS IN EGYPT.

London, 1st July.

The House of Commons has declined to discuss Sir Stafford Northcote's vote of censure with regard to Egyptian affairs as inopportune, and the discussion has been indefinitely postponed.

OPPOSITION TO REFORM.

London, 2nd July.

At a conservative meeting of Peers a resolution for the rejection of the Reform Bill was unanimously adopted.

THE LANGSON AFFAIR.

The Chinese Government disavows the Langson affair.

*** We fear that grave reason exists for doubting the accuracy of this assertion.—ED.

MEASURES FOR COAST DEFENCE.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Peking, 27th June.

An Imperial Decree was issued yesterday conferring on General Liu Ming-chuan, the projector of railways, the title of Fu-t'ai. He is ordered to proceed to Tai-wan Fu to take command of the troops there for the purpose of coast defence. Two high mandarins, the Brigadier-General and the Tao-t'ai, are to be subject to his orders.

His Excellency Mons. Patenôtre, French Minister to China, and suite, arrived here on the 1st inst., by the French mail, *en route* for Peking.

The Marquis of Medina, Third Secretary of the Spanish Legation at Peking, has just been transferred to Brussels.

Señor Flores has been appointed the new First Secretary to the Spanish Legation at Peking, and is shortly expected here.

The Right Reverend Bishop Garnier, S.J. returned by the *Kiangteen* on Tuesday from Ningpo, his Lordship having visited that port to take part in the ordination of the new Catholic Bishop of Chekiang. The newly-made Bishop and four priests were also among the *Kiangteen*'s passengers.

The *Yung Wei* arrived on Saturday afternoon from the North, having on board their Excellencies Chang Chih-tung and Chang Pei-lun. As the vessel entered the Lower Reach, the crews of some of the Chinese gunboats manned the yards and fired a salute of three guns. It was intended that the *Yung Wei* should go alongside Kiu-le-yuen Wharf, but this arrangement was not carried out, the vessel going alongside the C. M. Co.'s Lower Wharf instead. In consequence of this, the officials who had been waiting at Kin-le-yuen hastily made their way to Hongkew to receive the guests. We noticed that all the words of command on board the *Yung Wei* were given in English as the vessel went alongside the Wharf.

H.E. Chang Chih-tung left yesterday for Canton by the *Kwangtes*, accompanied by the gunboats *Chih-an* and *Fei-ying*. The *Kwangtes* and gunboats anchored off the Woosung Fort to give his Excellency an opportunity of making an inspection of the fort, and after a stoppage of an hour or two proceeded on their way.

H.E. Chang P'ei-lun left Shanghai on Tuesday night in the *Yang Wu*, and proceeds to Foochow to prosecute his inspection of the coast defences.

Letters reached us on Wednesday giving some explanation of the perplexing telegram from Peking published in our issue of the 20th ult. It appears that it was based on a despatch received by a "high official" at Tientsin from Ts'ên Yü-ying, Viceroy of Yün-kuei, and, we suppose, sent on to the Capital by the recipient. The details of this despatch are too absurd for publication in full. Suffice it to say that the alleged attack on the Chinese guards by French troops is said to have been prompted by the indignation of the latter at no war-indemnity having been demanded, and that, as a sequel to the whole, two petty French officers fell into the hands of Liu Jung-fu, who handed them over to Ts'ên Yü-ying. This news is said to have reached Paris—though the dates can scarcely be made to fit in—and fresh demands by the French to have resulted in consequence. It is difficult to extract any grains of truth out of such a bushel of chaff.

We are still without any further advices of a trustworthy nature respecting the political situation. Rumour, however, is rife among the Chinese, and private information is said to have been received from the north that Secret Decrees of an energetic nature have been issued by the Empress, ordering the despatch of troops to guard the southern frontier and the adoption of prompt measures of defence wherever needed. Our informants say that there is no desire for war on the part of the Government; but that the embarrassments of the situation are fully recognised, and that the prevailing idea is to be ready for all emergencies in case the French Minister pushes matters to extremes. We have no proof that all this is true, but the assertions are not wanting in collateral support.

A Correspondent writing from the Hills near Peking on the 23rd ult., speaks of the heat then prevailing as intolerable, and the

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

drought as giving rise to much anxiety for the crops. The Emperor is ordering extra services to be held at the Imperial temples, for rain.

We are informed that fresh news of an encouraging nature has been received by the Agents of the Sheridan Mining Co. from Mr. Waters. It appears that with only twelve men at work in the mine he is getting a daily output of two-and-a-half tons of first class silver ore, which will be worth from $500 to $600 gold. Mr. Waters cannot employ more than twelve men at present, as there is no room to work the ore while the snow remains; but as a rapid thaw has set in this disability will very soon be removed.

A telegram was received at Shanghai on Friday announcing the arrival home of the *Glenogle* at 5.30 p.m. on the 26th June.

Telegrams of sales of the first of this season's teas per *Glenogle* were received on Saturday. They appear generally to be disappointing; in fact losses seem to have resulted in most cases, and, so far as we have heard, the most favourable advices are that the teas just "come out."

We hear that the silk dealers, or the Silk Guild, have instructed Counsel to begin legal proceedings against an English firm, which rejected considerable quantities of silk bargained for the week before last.

A social meeting of the congregation of Union Chapel was held on Saturday evening, at the Temperance Hall, under the presidency of the Rev. A. J. Bamford. The proceedings opened with a high tea, which was followed by a promenade concert and entertainment. Much amusement was caused by an admirably clever reading from a late number of the *Century* by Mr. Bamford. The meeting closed with an anthem by the Union Chapel choir, Mr. Pardon gracefully presiding at the harmonium.

Our readers no doubt remember that some time ago Mr. C. H. Judd received, by vote, his *congé* as minister of the Baptist Church. On Sunday morning Mr. Judd preached a very appropriate and impressive farewell sermon, taking as his text the words—"And he gave them their desire; but sent leanness into their souls."

The Director of Siccawei Observatory informed us on Sunday that the typhoon which was announced from Manila as raging N.N.E. of Luzon, on the 25th divided to the North of that island. One portion of it passed to the West, according to the telegram received here on Thursday. The other part continued its course to the North, inclining towards the North-east, and will visit the coast of Japan. The principal typhoon has entered the Channel of Formosa; it will then go over the Continent, leaving Shanghai to its right, and probably not causing any trouble here.

The Director of Si-ca-wei Observatory informs us that, for several days, the barometer has exhibited alternatives of fixity and fall, which seem to indicate that the two whirlwinds produced by the original typhoon detain each other in these middle latitudes; a repetition of the curious phenomenon presented by the typhoons of July and August, 1882. On the 30th ult., one of those whirlwinds was undoubtedly south of Shanghai, as may be concluded both from the lower readings of the barometer and the greater violence of the N.E. wind accompanied with rain.

Owing to the breaking of one of the Electric Company's wires, the street lamps were not lighted for some hours on Monday night.

A Chinaman has recently started a searching party on his own account, his object being to discover smuggled goods brought to Shanghai by passengers by the various steamers. This would be a move in the right direction, were it not for the important fact that, after making a seizure, no more has been heard of the goods. It appears that this man, on various occasions, had taken opium and other things from Chinese passengers, informing them that he was employed by the Customs to search their luggage, and telling them they had better go to the Customs to get their goods released. In consequence of this, there have been a number of applicants for goods seized, of which the Customs had no record, so that the suspicions of the Customs authorities were raised that there was some underhand work going on. In consequence of this, they set a watch, and have succeeded in capturing the man, who appears to have been doing a very profitable business while engaged in his self-imposed task. At the Mixed Court on Tuesday the accused was sentenced to be cangued for two months outside the Custom-house. When he was captured he was in the act of seizing a basket of saltpetre which one of the crew of the *Yangtsze* was attempting to smuggle on shore, and when asked for his authority he produced a paper bearing the signature of a foreigner. Among the articles which he had seized and appropriated on the same way at various times were two balls of opium from the *Tsiloo*, several boxes of silver and salt-petre from the *Peking* and nine boxes of salt from the *Sual*; and in one case he had even seized near the upper end of the Associated Wharves, a sampan laden with salt, only liberating it on receiving payment of $10.

On Monday evening while the sergeant on duty at the Central Station was engaged with the gate-man in locking the prisoners in the cells, they were set upon by a number of the prisoners, who tried to make their escape. Both officers held on to the gate of the prison and called for assistance, while the prisoners hammered at their fingers to make them let go. They, however, pluckily held on till help came, and the would-be runaways were secured. The sergeant had his fingers badly bruised with a cangue, while the native policeman received sundry punches in the ribs. On Tuesday morning ten prisoners, handcuffed together in batches of two and three, were brought up at the Mixed Court. Chief Inspector Cameron informed Mr. Cheshire, who was sitting as Assessor, that at 7 o'clock on Monday evening Sergeant Burtenshaw went with a native policeman to lock the prisoners confined at the Central Station in their separate cells for the night, when the prisoners made a rush for the door. The Sergeant, however, managed to get to the door first and hold it close until assistance arrived, although the prisoners, who had broken up a cangue and armed themselves with the pieces, battered him about the hands and wrists with their improvised bludgeons, cutting and bruising him rather severely. A few days before a chisel and a quantity of lime and pepper had been conveyed into the prison through the agency of the wife of a scoundrel named Chai Kuai-pao, who, according to Inspector Cameron's account, was the ringleader in the attempt. It appears that the woman took a child with her who was small enough to squeeze through the wooden bars which surround the enclosure outside the cells, and so convey these articles to the men, the pepper and lime being evidently intended for the eyes of the gaoler. It was also stated that on the evening when the attempt to escape was made, a native policeman listened to the prisoners talking, and heard them agree that the only means of escape left to them was by stabbing the gate-keeper. Chai Kuai-pao, the ring-leader in the attempts, was sentenced last April to four years' imprisonment for extorting large sums of money from widows and others living in Hongkew. He had previously undergone various terms of imprisonment in Shanghai and elsewhere, one of the sentences being for life. After serving a small part of that sentence he was, however, released, with many other prisoners, to do honour to the Emperor on the occasion of his marriage. One of the charges made against him is that of gouging a man's eyes out. This man was on Tuesday sentenced to receive 300 blows with the bamboo, while the other prisoners who attempted to escape were let off with 100 each. Chai Kuai-pao received his punishment in the presence of the Court. His thighs, which before the operation showed the scars of previous floggings, were swollen and raw before he had received the last of the 240 blows which, according to the reckoning of a Chinese constable, were all that were administered, and he howled continuously during the operation; but the punishment was probably not so severe as that inflicted on garotters at home. The other men received their punishment in the afternoon.

On Tuesday night (24th ult.), the chief steward of the Austro-Hungarian gunboat *Albatros* left Fogg's jetty for the purpose of returning on board his ship which is anchored on the Pootung side abreast of the French Concession. When the sampan was near midstream, cries were heard, upon which a boat was lowered from the *Albatros* to ascertain what was the matter, but nothing could be seen, so it was concluded that somebody had been lost. As the steward did not return to his vessel information was conveyed to the Police Station that the man was missing and probably drowned. On Thursday evening the body of a foreigner was found floating near the Minghong Road jetty, Hongkew, and was taken over to Pootung. The body was afterwards identified as that of the missing steward. In the pockets were some forty-two English sovereigns, a watch and chain, and some silver money.

An extensive seizure of "Maloo Mixture" was made by the police on Tuesday, several tons of refuse tea-leaves, bought up from tea-houses and re-dried, being discovered in a native house. The wife of the occupant of the house was brought up at the Mixed Court yesterday before his Worship Huang, who sat unassisted by an Assessor. She attempted to account for the condition of the tea found in her husband's house by stating that it had been brought to Shanghai by boat and had got wet on the passage; but Inspector Howard informed his Worship that the second-hand leaves from the tea-house pots might be seen in the woman's house in every stage of the process of redrying for exportation, and his Worship ordered the whole quantity to be burned. The woman stated that her husband had gone to Soochow a few days before to visit a sick relative, but he has been seen by the police in the Settlement within a day or two, and he will probably be captured before long and brought up before the Mixed Court to receive a reward for his industry.

A Chinese doctor living at Shao-hsing recently found his house infested with rats. He thereupon purchased some poison, and after the members of his household had gone to bed mixed the poison with some raw rice, which he placed in a basin on a table. Unfortunately he overslept himself the next morning, and in the meantime the cook made preparations for the morning meal. Seeing some rice on a table, and not knowing that it was poisoned, the man mixed it up with the rest of the rice, cooked it, and served it up for breakfast. When the doctor got up, he forgot all about the poisoned rice and sat down to breakfast with his family and employés, twelve persons in all. The rat poison was of so powerful a nature that in a very short time the whole twelve persons were *in articulo mortis*, so that no remedies availed to save them. The doctor's eldest son was the only one of the family who escaped, and he owed his good fortune to the fact that he was away from home at breakfast time.

A few days ago an advertisement appeared in the *Hu Pao* offering a reward to anyone who could give any information as to the whereabouts of a Chinese youth named Chang Yü-kung, who was then missing. This gentleman was one of the Chinese students who had been to America, and was

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

up till the time he was missed employed in a foreign firm. He was a very respectable person, of quiet habits, so his friends were all the more surprised at his not returning home from his office. Yesterday afternoon the dead bodies of two Chinese were found in the Huangpu near the C.M.S.N. Co.'s Wharves. One was that of the clerk and the other of a coolie. How they both came to get drowned is not known, but the student's friends have concluded to bury the body without the formality of an inquest being previously gone through.

We see that Mr. G. T. Addis, formerly Manager of the Chartered Mercantile Bank here, has been provisionally appointed a Member of the Legislative Council of Singapore.

The Directors of the Yangtsze Insurance Association, Limited, have declared a dividend of Tls. 3.50 per share, being interest at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum for the half-year ended on the 30th June.

Madame Marchetti, with a company of three artistes, arrived here on Tuesday by the *Iraonaddy*, from Hongkong, where she has been giving a series of concerts with great success.

Late on Friday night, some half-dozen two storeyed Chinese houses in an alley-way off the Maloo and nearly opposite the old Mixed Court came down with a run. As the houses were known to be unsafe, the occupants had been warned to leave a short time previously. Consequently the buildings were empty, and no one received any injuries. A Chinese compradore in foreign employ is the owner of the property.

A carriage accident occurred on the Yangtsze-poo Road late on Sunday night, and a gentleman and lady who were in the carriage were pitched out. The pony bolted off the road into the ditch and apparently broke its neck, as it was quite dead when some passing foreigners rendered assistance to the lady and gentleman.

Some time ago, a foreigner broke out of the English gaol here and got away, leaving no trace behind him. From a letter dated Foochow, 22nd ult., we find that the runaway is now in Foochow, having been imprisoned for fifteen days for misappropriating money belonging to a person who had befriended him.

The distribution of the prizes at St. Xavier's School took place on Tuesday evening, in the presence of the parents and friends of the pupils. A goodly number of prizes—over ninety—were awarded, some of the pupils receiving as many as five rewards, besides being more than once "honourably mentioned." The school re-opens on 1st September.

On Wednesday afternoon the distribution of prizes at St. Joseph's Institution took place, and yesterday a similar event came off at the Providence School. In both cases there were a large number of the friends of the pupils present, and the prizes were very numerous. This shows a marked improvement in the pupils.

The members of La Lyre Society played some selections of music at the grounds of the French Municipality on Tuesday night. There was a good number of visitors, and among them the new French Minister. The gardens were tastefully illuminated with lanterns, producing a very pleasing effect.

The members of No. 4 Company, S.V.C. held their Annual General Meeting on Tuesday night. Last year's Committee was re-elected, and it was decided to have monthly drills which all the members are requested to attend. The Committee consists of Captain Danenberg, Chairman, Lieutenants Campos and Senna, Sergeant Pereira, Corporal J. F. Pereira, Secretary, and Privates F. F. Carion and R. F. Martins.

We acknowledge receipt of the *Chinese Recorder & Missionary Journal* for May-June.

The *Vigilant* left Shanghai on Tuesday to join the fleet.

The *Villars* will leave here next week for the north, with the French Minister on board.

The French corvette *Duguay-Trouin*, Capt. Muret de Pagnac, arrived at Hongkong on the 24th June from Chefoo.

On Monday morning we gave the time of the *Kowshing*'s last passage from Chefoo to Shanghai. We learn that this steamer has done the distance from Shanghai to Chefoo in 38 hours 5 minutes.

As there has been some discussion about the time certain steamers have made between Chefoo and Shanghai, it may be of interest to those concerned to learn that the *Haean* did the distance under 39 hours, the *Taku* in 39 hours 10 minutes, the *Pautah* 39 hours 5 minutes, and the *Kowshing* 41 hours 10 minutes.

The *Nanzing*, from Nagasaki, reports a very heavy swell from S. S. W. all the way across. This was no doubt due to the typhoon which was reported last week as travelling northward.

A few days ago, Mr. M. S. Kelly appeared at the British Court to answer a claim of $50 brought by a Chinese livery stable keeper for salaries paid to Mr. Kelly's mafoos. Judgment was given by Mr. Mowat for the plaintiff; but Mr. Kelly then announced that he was not a British subject, and consequently the Court proceeded no further. On Monday the claimant went to the Mixed Court to get a warrant to compel Mr. Kelly's attendance before that tribunal; but his Worship stated that he had received an intimation from the Chev. de Kreitner stating that Kelly was an Austrian subject. The claimant was accordingly directed to take proceedings in the Austrian Consular Court.

An extraordinary instance of the peculiarity of Chinese notions of justice, as embodied in the law of the land, occurred on Monday at the Mixed Court. An old man, clothed in rags, was brought before Huang and Mr. Giles and charged with attempting to commit suicide by drowning himself in the Soochow Creek. The accused's son, a cleanly looking youth, appeared to give evidence against his father, and was at once ordered by Huang to go down on his knees before the bench. Mr. Giles remarked that it appeared to be the Chinese custom when a son charged his father with any offence to make him go down on his knees like an accused person, and this being so, he thought it best not to interfere. The circumstances of the case were then explained to the Court. It was stated that the son was an assistant in a barber's shop, earning the munificent salary of 900 cash a month in addition to his food. Out of this, he helped to support his father; but the old man was not satisfied with what he got, as his son had promised to let him have 12,000 cash a month—an amount rather difficult for the boy to pay out of a monthly salary of 900 cash. The old man upbraided his son for walking about in good clothes while his poor father was in rags, and announced his intention of committing suicide in consequence of his son's unfilial conduct. The son, fearing that the old man would carry out his intention, followed his father to the edge of the Soochow Creek, when the father seized hold of the boy and jumped into the water, dragging his son with him. Luckily the water was shallow and the boy was strong, so he managed to land both himself and his progenitor safely on the bank. His Worship, having heard this story, to the amazement of all the foreigners in Court, ordered the boy who had saved his father's life to be rewarded with a hundred blows, Huang explaining to Mr. Giles that it was a principle in Chinese law when a son prosecuted his father to begin by giving the son a hundred blows. Chief-Inspector Cameron, anxious to save the boy from his undeserved punishment, explained that the police were the prosecutors in the case, and that it was only at their instigation that the boy had given evidence; and Huang then graciously remitted his sentence, at the same time handing over the would-be suicide to the fostering care of his son, who will apparently have to maintain his father out of his slender income of about $10 per annum. Mr. Giles explained that if he had not been able to show the magistrate that the boy was not the prosecutor, he should have had no power to prevent the execution of Mr. Huang's humane sentence, as there was no reason to doubt its legality.

There is apparently an alarming increase in native crime in the settlement. At the Mixed Court on Monday, a number of men were brought up on a charge of gambling, and it was suggested that, following a precedent, they should all be cangued on the plot of ground where they were found gambling. It was objected, however, that there were not enough cangues left unemployed to go round, and the men were then sentenced to ten days' imprisonment, although it was explained that the prison accommodation, as well as the supply of cangues, was severely overtaxed.—A jinricsha coolie was charged with stealing from a coloured man a sovereign, a half-sovereign and some gold, valued altogether at $25; and an opium-shopkeeper was charged with receiving the goods knowing them to be stolen. The shopkeeper admitted having bought the goods for $12 and having sold them again to a man in the city. He was ordered to pay a fine of $25, while the thief was sentenced to serve three months in the chain-gang.—In another case, a man was charged with being concerned with three others in committing a robbery with violence on the old Railway Road. Huang urged the man to give up the names of his accomplices on the extraordinary ground that if there were four men charged, the sentence would be divided up amongst them, and so the prisoner would get only a fourth share instead of the whole punishment which the crime would entail. The accused, however, remained true to his comrades, and was sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

Last week a Chinese woman tried to get her husband out of prison by supplying him with tools to saw the bars with; but, being detected, she was ordered to be imprisoned for two months. This was the sentence of the Mixed Court on Saturday, but as the woman was to be in charge of the magistrate, it is quite within the the bounds of probability that she will be let off more easily.

On Saturday two natives were charged with conspiring to get a native constable into trouble by accusing him of taking bribes. The men were convicted and sentenced, one to two months in the chain-gang, and the other to one month.

Another case of attempting to get a native policeman into trouble by accusing him of taking bribes was before the Mixed Court on Tuesday. Some six weeks ago the officer in question, who holds the rank of sergeant, arrested a man for a petty offence, and in the course of a struggle which ensued a stone bangle which the officer was wearing got broken. The man who was arrested was one of a gang of professional gamblers who ply their calling on a piece of waste ground at the back of the Mixed Court, and these men seized the opportunity to get the sergeant into trouble. They reported at the Police Station that he had been accepting bribes, and had been trying to "squeeze" from them the worth of the broken bangle, which he valued at $3. The police investigated the matter and found that the men who made the charge of bribery had been instigated thereto by another native policeman, constable No. 211. On Tuesday 211 and two of the gamblers were brought before the Acting Mixed Court Magistrate and Mr. Cheshire, and each sentenced to a month in the chain-gang.

A gang of river thieves made a raid yesterday morning on a sampan belonging to

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

a foreigner living on the Yangtsze-poo Road. They attacked the sampan-man, and after threatening to kill him made off with all his clothes.

The Agents of the Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Company have sent us the Forty-eighth Annual Report of the Directors. The result of the business of last year was highly satisfactory, the Fire Premium account, after deducting reinsurances, amounting to £1,271,478, being an increase of £99,906 on the preceding year, while the losses were £696,021. According to the Balance Sheet the investments and cash of the company were over seven millions sterling. Speaking of the business of the Company the Chairman said at the annual meeting of proprietors:—While the premiums of the year have been thus largely increased, on the contrary the losses during the year have been less than in the previous year, although in the aggregate they are necessarily very large. The total losses for the year are £696,000, as compared with £751,800, and the accounts, after providing for expenses, but without including interest, shows the very large profit of £206,000, or 16 per cent. profit upon the premium income. This compares very favourably with the previous year, when the profits were only £67,000, or a little over 5½ per cent. upon the premium income. This is, indeed, I think, a very satisfactory result, and compares most favourably with the experience of other fire companies during the same period.

A parade and inspection of the Police Force took place yesterday afternoon at the Central Station. Nearly all the foreigners and about two hundred natives were put through a number of preliminary movements and inspected.

The *Straits Times* hears that the tin fields at Selangor are attracting considerable attention at Banka and Billiton, and from the latter island a private expedition will shortly set out to inspect some stanniferous land in that State, for the purpose of reporting and speculating thereon.

Mr. Boyce, a foreman in the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, recently swam from the new Admiralty Docks at Hongham, Hongkong, across the harbour. The tide was running very strong at the time, and his course was much affected by the current; nevertheless he reached the opposite shore without taking any rest, even by floating on his back. The distance by chart is given as four miles, and this is said to be the longest swim accomplished by any swimmer in Hongkong. The time was an hour and a half.

A communication appears, says the *China Mail*, in the Chinese papers of Hongkong, to the effect that the London Mission Church has opened two dispensaries for the gratuitous healing of the poor. An English physician, Dr. Young, and Mr. Lai Fuk-ch'i will attend at the dispensaries on certain days.

This is from the *Daily Press*:—M. Blancsubé, the Deputy for Cochin-China, in his observations addressed to the French Government on the mission of M. Pâtenotre to Annam, opposes the retrocession of Binh-thuan, chiefly on the ground that it would be construed into an act of weakness. As to the advantages of keeping the province, he says:—"In the part best known Binh-thuan is a poor and mountainous province and is thinly peopled. Expeditions made to the source of the Donnai, however, by French officers, notably by Dr. Neiss, of the Navy, show that the north of the province is occupied by a more dense population, with more of the commercial spirit. These people are little known by us and are almost independent. Through this district it would be easy to establish advantageous relations with the Mois, Ciampoises, and other tribes over which Annam has never exercised more than a nominal authority. Binh-thuan is healthy, produces a fine race of small horses, and possesses a good port. The history of the wars of Gia-long with the Tay-won shows that from a military point of view Binh-thuan would be of considerable importance in case of war between Lower Cochin-China and Annam proper."

We have received the following letter from a gentleman on the staff of the *China Review*:—

In one of the recent issues of the *North-China Daily News*, the receipt of the *China Review* for March-April was acknowledged, and a remark added that the number was 'two months late as usual.' The proper publishing date of the number was 1st May; it was issued on 1st June, so that it was only one month late. The *Review* has generally been published about three weeks after its due publishing date. The Editor of the *Review* would feel obliged if you would correct the statement made in the *News*.

It is only necessary to add that the number in question, which is labelled 'March-April,' reached us on the 9th of June, which is sufficient to prove that the publication of it was most unpunctual.

On the 21st ult. we *(China Mail)* published a telegram stating that the annexation of Cambodia had been completed and the king pensioned. From the *Saigonnais* of the 19th ult. we learn the particulars of the new convention which has been concluded between General Bouet and the King. The principal articles are:—the nomination of residents and under-residents by the French Government for the maintenance of publice order; control of the local authorities, who will be placed under the charge of a Resident General responsible to the Governor of Cochin-China; the regular exercise of the protectorate, the Cambodian officials to continue to administer the provinces, excepting so far as concerns the establishment and maintenance of taxes, customs, indirect contributions, public works, and services in general which require the employment of European engineers or agents. All expenses of the administration of the Kingdom and protectorate will be borne by Cambodia. Arrangements will be made to fix definitely a civil list for the King and the princes of the Royal family; meanwhile a provisional civil list is fixed at $300,000, with an endowment of $25,000 to divide among the princes. Slavery is to be abolished throughout the territory of Cambodia, and the soil of the kingdom, up to the present the exclusive property of the crown, will cease to be inalienable. A municipality is to be organised at Phnom-penh composed of the Resident General, or his deputy Resident, six French officials or merchants nominated by the Governor of Cochin China, three Cambodians, one Annamite, two Chinese, one Indian and one Malay, nominated by the King. The convention will be submitted for ratification to the President of the Republic.

The *Daily Press* of 23rd June says:—Two steamers, the *Lennox* and the *Miramar*, came into port yesterday morning in a somewhat battered condition, having been in collision. The *Lennox* was from Keelung with a full cargo of coal, and the *Miramar* put back, being on a voyage from Hongkong to Nagasaki. The *Miramar* at once put into the Kowloon dock, having an ugly breach on her starboard quarter, but the *Lennox* anchored off Wanchai to discharge cargo. The latter vessel has three or four feet of her stem cut clean out, the cut running back an equal distance on either side for about six feet. The mishap occurred shortly before 4 a.m. on the 19th, when the vessels were going in opposite directions in the Formosa Channel off Ockseu. There was any amount of room for both vessels, and no doubt there must have been fault somewhere. Each side claims the other to have been at fault, and possibly the matter may form the subject of a judicial investigation. Capt. Scott of the *Lennox* was not on deck until the vessels were close to each other. Fortunately in both cases the damage was above the water line, and the breaches were stopped up with planking as well as could be done on the spot.

According to the *China Mail* the following are the main particulars of the agreement between the Portuguese Government and the Eastern Extension A. & C. Telegraph Company for the laying of the cable between Hongkong and Macao. It is hoped that the work will be commenced shortly. The Company is to lay down a cable not only between Hongkong and Macao, but also from Macao to the island of Taipa, which lies opposite the Portuguese Colony. The latter cable is to be under the charge of the Government, but the Company is bound to make any repairs necessary, the expenses of which are to be borne by the Government. The time allowed for the completion of these cables is limited to six months from the date on which the agreement was signed. The Government will pay a subsidy of 2,250,000 *reis* annually for the term of ten years, during which time it will have free use of the cable for official despatches; at the close of the ten years' subsidy the Government will have to pay half rate for the telegrams, not including the transmission of two meteorological telegrams daily, which are to be sent free of charge. The Company will have the privilege of telegraphic communication between Hongkong and Macao for the term of forty years, and the Government cannot sanction in Macao any other telegraph lines, either land or submarine.

This rather confused note is from the *Japan Gazette*:—"Fixed deposits do not seem to suit the bankers of Japan, for at a meeting at Kioto it was resolved that no interest should be paid on deposits for a less term than twelve months." What the editor meant to say was probably that the Japanese bankers in Kioto do not find it to their interest to receive deposits for less than twelve months.

The *Hiogo News* of 28th June says:—We have been desired to state, and it affords us very great pleasure to comply with the request, that a meeting will be held at four o'clock this afternoon in the Municipal Hall to make arrangements for some public expression of the esteem in which General Stahel, the U.S. Consul—who as our readers know will be shortly leaving for Shanghai—is held by the foreign residents of Kobe and Osaka. In most similar communities in the East, recognition of this kind might, perhaps, in many instances be left to one section of the residents; that is, the nationals of the recipient of the attention. But here the circumstances are necessarily entirely different. As an indefatigable member of the local Municipal Council, of which he was long President, General Stahel has, irrespective of all other considerations, justly earned the thanks and best wishes of the entire foreign community, and we shall be very much surprised if the obligation is not worthily redeemed. The promoters of this popular movement are desirous that the community shall be fully represented at the meeting, and we have been especially desired to request every one willing to take a part to attend at the Municipal Hall this afternoon.

The *Choya Shimbun* says that a workman in a gold mine at Mishima-gori, Niigata Prefecture, who, until the time of the Restoration, was one of the richest men in this country, recently sent to a relative in Tokio a stone which he had found one day in the mine, and which he had kept on account of its dazzling lustre. His relative took it to an English resident in Yokohama, who, to his unbounded amazement, found it to be a diamond worth upwards of 300,000 yen. The foreigner requested him to send for the original finder of the diamond, in whose presence he proposes to submit it to the examinati on of experts. The fortunate finder is said to have left for Yokohama on the 2nd June.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Miscellaneous Articles.

THE NEW POLICY AT PEKING.

We published the other day a little item of news from one of our Peking Correspondents which must have occasioned some surprise to our readers. "The new members of the Tsung-li Yamên," we were informed, "are really progressive men, and the foreign Legations find them a great improvement on the old lot." No more striking illustration than this could be adduced to show how strangely the most widespread and firmly-held convictions may be falsified. Everything pointed to the opposite conclusion. It was in her exasperation at the fall of Bhamo, the suppression of despatches, and the vacillating policy of the Kung Ministry that the Empress dismissed the Sixth Prince and his colleagues from office, and elevated the Seventh Prince and his War Party to a position of considerable power. The change was considered, and not without reason, as portentous to the interests of both peace and progress. A "spirited foreign policy" could not fail to result from the elevation to power of Prince Chun, who had always been regarded as the bitter foe of both foreigners and foreign ways; and the spirited foreign policy in this instance simply meant defiance to the French, an incontinent declaration of war, and a death-blow to all schemes for the advancement of what the foreign critics of China had always regarded as the interest of both foreigners and Chinese. This view was undeniably supported by the appointment of two obscure Princes to posts of responsibility. The present head of the Yamên, Beilé I Kuang, has never had any experience in political affairs, and the same is true of Prince Li, who nominally presides at the board of the Grand Council. These two gentlemen were intended, in fact, to be no more than figure-heads, and so far there has been no reason to adopt a different opinion; but it certainly seems clear that if they be merely tools, the hands which use them are actuated by very different motives and have very different ends in view from those with which they were at first credited. There is an analogy, fanciful, perhaps, but none the less true, between the political situation in Peking to-day and that in London at the time of Mr. Disraeli's Reform Bill. Reform was looked for from the Liberal Party; opposition to it from the Conservatives. Yet it was the Conservative leader who, on his assumption of office, introduced the very measure which had been regarded by the Liberals as peculiarly their own; and now, here in China, we see very much the same thing. The weak, evasive, vacillating men who for years past have been regarded as the only possible pioneers of progress in the Empire, have been dismissed from office, leaving nothing behind them but a reputation for incompetence and expectations unfulfilled. It is a little difficult to decide, under the present aspect of affairs, whether foreigners have just cause to reproach themselves with shortsightedness in this matter. That the Kung Ministry never were, actually, pioneers or even favourers of progress is true, and they would be the first to disclaim ever having given us the slightest reason to suppose they were so. Yet they were generally associated in the minds of foreigners with a negative sort of friendship toward us, and, compared with the violent anti-foreign and retrogressive Party, were credited with being the only existent pioneers of progress *in posse*. Now whatever may be the political convictions of these two Parties, the outs and the ins, there can be no doubt that the latter are by far the stronger and more practical set of men. Chang Chih-tung is the Reformer *par excellence* in the country, and while Shansi has reason to regret his withdrawal and will always gratefully remember him as the best Governor she ever had, it is perhaps just as well that other provinces should be brought under his salutary sway, for a time. In Chang P'ei-lun we have another rising statesman,—a man who has already made his mark and who will no doubt leave a deeper mark behind him; while the Seventh Prince, the so-called uncompromising foe of progress, will be remembered as the man who introduced railways into China and encouraged the opening-up of mines. Of his Imperial Highness's enterprises in this direction we have heard constantly from time to time, and though the reports that have reached us have not been so detailed as might be wished they have been sufficient to establish two important facts—first, that Prince Ch'un is actively engaged in mining, regardless of the groans and heavings of the Earth-dragon, and secondly that he has a railway in full working order. From such a man we are justified in expecting something; we have, at least, some grounds to go upon. It would be unwise to anticipate a very rapid extension of the railway-system; but it will come in time, and meanwhile we may comfort ourselves with the reflection that a commencement has been made. And a brighter ray is thrown over the future of the country by the fact that the man who, after all, has proved himself so enlightened and progressive as to inaugurate these two great undertakings, is the father of the Emperor, and may be expected so to influence the mind of his youthful son as to ensure the Imperial sanction for a steadily progressive policy.

THE FRENCH VERSION OF THE LIANG-SHAN AFFAIR.

It appears, from the telegrams we publish to-day, that the French regard the Chinese Government as responsible for the alleged attack upon them at Langson, and intend to exact reprisals. Now on one point there can be but one opinion. Anything calculated to prejudice the *entente cordiale* now existing between the two nations, to upset the friendly arrangement recently arrived at by the negotiators, and to arrest the incipient movement of this country in the direction of progress, is most deeply to be deplored. Nothing but the directest and most irrefragable proof that the Chinese Government was not only responsible for the attack, but absolutely implicated in it, can justify the re-opening of questions already settled, and the jeopardising of all that has been arrived at after so much trouble and anxiety on both sides. We are arguing entirely upon the French version of the affair, and, for the present, we intentionally ignore the story told by the Chinese, circumstantial as it is. Now the question of whether the four thousand troops who attacked the French were Chinese or Black Flags need not be discussed. China recognised the Black Flags as her auxiliaries months ago, and if she be responsible at all she is responsible whichever of the two were the assailants. But the question is, did this force attack the French by order of the constituted Chinese authorities, whether provincial or metropolitan? For, granting all that may be said about the evasiveness and duplicity of Oriental Governments, there is one factor in their policy of infinitely greater power than a mere wish to trick—the simple principle of self-interest. The Chinese Government never acts without a motive. Supposing, for an instant, that the authorities in Peking were privy to this action on the part of the soldiery at Langson, by what motive is it possible to imagine them to have been actuated?—Revenge? Scarcely; to revenge themselves on a nation towards whom they may be supposed to bear a grudge in spite of external reconciliation, they would scarcely resort to so pitiful a procedure as to order an attack on seven hundred men. Any disturbances near the frontier for which they might be called to account would, on the contrary, embarrass them most unnecessarily, and it is clearly to China's interest to preserve peace for the time being at least. To charge the Chinese Government with complicity in this matter seems absurd in the highest degree. What possible advantage to itself could the Government propose to gain by such policy—indeed, what danger would it not incur? Are persons of the statesmanship of the Empress, the Seventh Prince, and the Viceroy of Chihli likely to sign a treaty of peace with their right hands, and do that which would render such a treaty nugatory with their left? That the occurrence is most deplorable will be conceded at once, and by none more cordially than by those who have so lately come to terms with the agents of France in Tientsin. It is contrary to all reason to blame those whose greatest interest is in the preservation of peace for an outrage committed by some rabble horde upon the frontier, whose leaders,

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

if they had any, ought to have withdrawn them nearly a month ago. We believe that dilatoriness in seeing this measure carried out is the worst crime that can be charged upon the Central Government. That the orders were duly issued there is every reason to suppose, and the authorities in the South are no doubt deserving of the severest punishment for their procrastination—procrastination which has been attended with such dire results, and involved their Government in fresh embarrassments of such a serious nature just as events were flowing so smoothly and so prosperously along. It is to be hoped that the French will view matters in this light, and act with calmness and restraint. Their arms and their diplomacy have been alike successful, and whatever may be thought of their invasion of Tonquin in the first instance it is undeniable that their moderation in victory has been worthy of all praise. Regrettable in the highest degree it would be if they gave us reason to suppose that, having smoothed matters in Egypt, they did really repent of their Treaty with China, and regretted having waived their demand for an indemnity, as our Peking Correspondent phrased it in his telegram the other day, and were now prepared to take advantage of this affair at Langson to repair their errors. In this matter we most earnestly counsel moderation of conduct and calmness of judgment. The progressive Party in Peking are sufficiently hampered by the firebrands who concocted the Memorial we publish in another column, and who, we believe, are ill-advised enough to go any lengths to embroil their Government and ruin Li. An expression of cordial and deep regret, swift punishment upon the guilty parties, and guarantees for the maintenance of order on the frontiers—surely such satisfaction as this would be all that the affair demands, and, let us add, quite as much as will be found compatible with either the honour or the interest of France.

THE CHINESE VERSION.

It may now be as well, for the sake of completeness, to look at the Liangshan trouble from another point of view than that on which the preceding remarks are based. Our contention is that the Peking Government did not instigate, and could not have instigated, the attack by Chinese soldiers upon the French; that such a policy would be in direct antagonism to the most vital interests of the Government; and that the wisest and most magnanimous course that could be adopted by the French would be to abstain from exacting those full reprisals which, according to common rumour, they are now intending to demand. It is unnecessary to go over this ground again, and we therefore turn to what purports to be the Chinese version of the trouble. Here, as is usual in such cases, we are met by an entanglement of absurdities and contradictions which render it exceedingly difficult to form any very distinct idea what the Chinese really mean to convey. Indeed, so utterly different is the story which comes from Kuangsi from the story which comes from London, that we cannot be perfectly sure that the two refer to the same events. Nay, there are now before us two Chinese versions, and these we are left to dovetail together as best we may. Putting this process into execution, then, we gather from it that the French, exasperated at the news that no war-indemnity was to be exacted, "attacked" the Chinese garrisons; using, as a pretext, a demand that the garrisons in question, which were stationed at a village on the Kuangsi frontier called Kuan-yin Ch'iao, or Bridge of the Goddess of Mercy, should vacate their stockades and retire over the border into the province. This the Chinese commanders declined to do, on the plea that they dared not act without the orders of the Provincial Governor; and at this point the story is plausible enough. The French thereupon fell upon them, and an engagement followed, lasting two days, at the expiration of which time the French were repulsed with forty men killed, sixty-five wounded, and two taken prisoners by the enemy. Such, in brief, is the story as told by the Chinese; and in view of the astounding lies which the Chinese in the South have systematically spread over the Empire throughout the whole business it is unnecessary to analyse it further. There is but one point in it that calls for mention, and that point is so important that we can afford to dispense with all the other details in a lump. It seems to be admitted, even by the Chinese, that the native troops were where they had no business to be; and this was no doubt the fault of the authorities. Now the very first thing the Viceroy of Chihli should have done, on signing the Preliminary Treaty with Captain Fournier, was to telegraph down stringent orders for all troops to be withdrawn from Tonquin territory at once and without delay; and an Imperial High Commissioner should have been despatched as soon as ever his credentials could be prepared, to see that the provisions of the Treaty were carried out by the Chinese, and so prevent all such disasters as the present. But no such precaution seems to have been taken. The Treaty was hurried through at a breakneck pace; the clamours of the Opposition were silenced; the Viceroy and his friends congratulated themselves and each other, and then all seemed to rest upon their oars. Satisfied with having caught their horse, they forgot to lock the stable-door, and a pretty mess is the result. It is impossible, therefore, to acquit the Government of almost suicidal carelessness and neglect, though we would not for a moment accuse it of complicity, for the very best of reasons. But is it not possible that, though the Empress and her advisers may be perfectly innocent of everything but this fatal dilatoriness, there are others on whom must fall the suspicion of real crime—men who, in their thirst for war, would not scruple to deliberately compromise their Government in the hope of provoking it? There are such men, and they are not above suspicion. Angry and disappointed at a premature and patched-up peace which has rendered all their mobilisations of troops and other warlike preparations useless, nothing is more likely than that they have instigated the soldiers on the frontier to pick a quarrel with the French. It is known that one of the most bitter opponents of peace is Tso Tsung-t'ang, and another is his friend the Admiral P'êng Yü-lin. The latter exercises a vast influence in the South, and is really, we believe, a brave man. Then there is the braggart Tu'ên Yü-ying, who is not a brave man by any means, but talks so big and so loud that he succeeds in passing for such among the Chinese; and there is the valorous Liu Jung-fu, whose acknowledged trade is fighting. Now whether these three men, and those who sympathise with them, are at the bottom of the affair or not, the very fact of their presence in the debatable land ought to have suggested to the Government the necessity for taking all precautions. The Government did not do so, and must now reap the fruits of its grievous negligence; but if serious danger ensues, the odium of it will lie upon the civil and military officers who are directly responsible for the outbreak. Of course, the implicated persons will feel no odium themselves. In their own eyes and the eyes of the populace they will be heroes, true sons of China, prompt to avenge foreign insults, and—which is the most dangerous eulogy of all—more careful for the honour of China than are its Manchu rulers. If our suspicions are correct—our suspicions, we mean, that the fresh embroglio in Tonquin has been deliberately planned by men high in power and position,—then they may eventually have even more to answer for than now appears. To put it in plain words: these hot-headed and ignorant men do, as a fact, look upon the peace with France as damaging to the *prestige* of China; they know that it was made by the Viceroy of Chihli, whom they hate, and approved by the Empress and the Prince, whom, as Manchus, they probably regard with but little more than lip-loyalty; and they would no doubt sacrifice all three, if need arose, to their own ill-judged and rampant patriotism. There we have a theory of the new Tonquin trouble which may or may not be true, but which is worth a passing record. That the Manchu rulers themselves are not unaware of the risks of their position may be gathered from the following utterance by a Chinese gentleman in Paris, published in the French papers. After speaking of the great excitement

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

which prevailed in China when war threatened a few months ago, the people, "notably in the provinces of Kuangsi and Kuangtung," being "actually wild," he says:—"The Chinese Government saw that something must be done to quell the dangerous excitement of the people, and consequently issued decrees for a grand military movement. All this demonstration and preparation was meant, however, only as a sedative to the people, as the Government knew too well the consequences of an actual war with France. It knew that the people would at the first grand opportunity rise up *en masse* against the Government and wipe out the present dynasty. And what better opportunity do the people want than the impaired condition of China after a protracted war with a foreign Power? However cowardly the action of the Chinese Government in signing the last treaty may seem to those not acquainted with the internal affairs of China, it is, nevertheless, the most politic thing she could do. It was disgrace or annihilation, and she chose the former." That is to say, the Manchus, according to the Chinese theory, preferred the "disgrace" of the whole country to the "annihilation" of themselves; and this is just what the more fiery spirits of China are not likely to acquiesce in. They would far sooner see the dynasty annihilated than their own people put to shame, in spite of the terrible risk they run of plunging the whole of China into war.

THE ACTUAL SITUATION.

The above articles were written in the absence of any special information, and are based simply upon the news that has already been made public. Such being the case, we publish them as they stand; at a late hour yesterday evening, however, we received important advices from an authentic source, and these we now proceed to embody in the following remarks, which may be regarded as officially exact.

Now the first clause of the Convention of Tientsin stipulated in the most formal manner for the *immediate withdrawal* of all the Chinese forces on the frontier of Tonquin. In order to avoid any misunderstanding on that point, a subsequent and unpublished Convention was drawn up to fix the date of the departure of each of the Chinese garrisons. It had been specially understood that the French troops should occupy Lang-son [Liang-shan], Cao-bang, and That-khe from the 6th June; this delay, however, was prolonged by General Millot in a spirit of conciliation, and it was not until the middle of June that the French column, which had orders to occupy Lang-son, left Hanoi. The column, which, we believe, was composed of three hundred men, plus a certain number of Tonquinese auxiliaries, had arrived at a three days' distance from Lang-son, and was advancing in all good faith in accordance with the terms of the Treaty, when it was suddenly attacked in a dangerous passage by a contingent of Chinese forces, estimated at from four to five thousand men at the lowest computation. The French troops, notwithstanding the suddenness of the onslaught, were able to keep their position, but lost seven of their number, forty others being wounded. Such are, we believe, the plain facts of this deplorable affair, and they may be left to speak for themselves. But the serious part of the business is yet to come. We thought at first that the *contretemps* had arisen from some most unfortunate misunderstanding, and fully expected —as we have stated above—that the Tsung-li Yamên would promptly disavow the action of the military commander who had compromised so seriously the provisions of the Convention of Tientsin. We are assured, however, that such is not the case, and that the Chinese Government, so far from repudiating all connivance with the authors of this disastrous business, are now actually attempting to evade the Convention itself. This is a severe disappointment to us, who had augured so very differently and so very hopefully from the new departure in policy which we, in common with our Correspondents, had believed to be a fact. Making the fullest allowance for the pressure brought to bear upon them by the Chauvinist Party in the North, we can even now scarcely believe the rulers of China capable of assuming such heavy responsibilities, and of throwing themselves with light hearts into an undertaking which may bring such disastrous consequences upon the country. But the appointment of Admiral Courbet as Commander-in-Chief of the two French fleets in Chinese and Tonquinese waters may be held to indicate that the French Republic is resolved to have recourse, if need be, to the most energetic measures to obtain final and complete redress. The Admiral is expected here immediately, and is to confer with M. Patenôtre upon the situation.

ANCIENT CHINESE TOMBS.

In an old country like this, with a line of forty dynasties and about three hundred and thirty recognized emperors, there must be a very large number of mounds which contain the remains of men who have borne the title of Huang-ti. All these men possessed the power of life and death; and a crowd of officers, eunuchs, and slaves trembled in their presence, recognized them each as the divinely appointed Son of Heaven, and, as such, regarded them as Viceroys during their natural life on behalf of the Supreme Ruler over the whole or part of China as the case might be. Before all these three hundred and more individuals the ceremony of knocking the forehead on the ground was performed daily by those who approached them, as a tribute of respect, and no one ventured to speak in their presence without an invitation to do so. It is the Emperor's lot to live in an atmosphere of enforced respect, and never to appear before others divested of the outward signs of his dignity. When he dies he is placed in a vault strongly built of hewn stone, and a mound of earth of vast dimensions is heaped up to a great height above and round the vault. When the coffin has been borne into this vault, the entrance is closed for ever with stonework rendered as far as possible indestructible. In the official language of the occasion, the door of the sepulchre is said to be closed for ten thousand years. The feelings of those hundreds of privileged attendants, relatives, and high officers who witness an interment of this kind are wrought up to a very high pitch, as was shown at the last Imperial funeral a few years since, when suicide was committed by a Censor on account of a sentiment of loyalty to his young Imperial master. The Chinese mind has not yet awaked to the recognition of the equality of men, and, as things are now, nothing can equal the solemnity of the funeral of an Emperor to those who witness it.

As a rule, the tombs of Emperors have been near the Capital city in a well-chosen valley facing the south. But this could not always be carried out. In a communication which we lately printed from Dr. Macgowan, some interesting allusions were made to the tomb of the Emperor Yü, who died near the city of Shao-hsing on the road between the cities of Hangchow and Ningpo. The genealogical record, *Chia Pu*, is preserved, and is in charge of descendants of the Emperor who live close the tomb and under whose superintendence it is placed. There were blanks in this book in the third and fourth centuries before the Christian era. The names of the generations before this time are, it is to be feared, not to be relied upon, for if there had been a genealogical register of the Emperor Yü's family existing through all the intervening centuries, from B.C. 2,000 to the time when these occur, it would be mentioned by Chinese authors in their accounts of this ancient hero. Yet the tradition of the tomb may be authentic. Near the tomb of Confucius in Shantung there is an ancient mound which is stated to be the burial place of Shao-hao, who mounted the throne BC 2597 on the death of his father Huang Ti. He is said to have moved his capital to the city of Chü-fu, and this was the reason of his being buried there. The tomb is two miles from the modern city. The mound is about twenty feet high and a hundred feet round. In front of it is a pyramid made of limestone slabs cut square and smooth. On the flat top of the pyramid is a miniature temple, containing a small image of Shao-hao. On the south is an avenue of more than 400 trees, constituting a noble entrance. At the capital of Shensi the number of imperial

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

tombs is very great. The long list begins with the tomb of Hua-hsü Shih, the mother of Fu Hsi. This is followed by a tomb claiming to be that of Ti-k'u, who reigned before the time of Yao and Shun. Then we have the graves of Wen-wang and three Emperors of the Chou dynasty. The tomb of Ts'in Shih Huang, of wall-building and book-burning and sage-boiling fame, has been opened and robbed twice. There are the graves of five emperors of the Han dynasty, of one of the Sui dynasty, and of five of the Tang dynasty. If tombs are to be regarded as interesting in proportion to the length of the reigns of the emperors who occupy them, their historical renown and the brilliance of their achievements, then the tombs still existing at the capital of Shensi must be regarded as by far the most interesting in China. There are twelve noteworthy tombs in the vicinity of Lo-yang in the province of Honan. They are headed by the mythical sovereign called Nü-wo or Nü-kua, who comes between Fu Hsi and Shen Nung in primitive legend. But all the rest are the tombs of historical emperors, and they help to keep in memory the faded glories of the second in fame of Chinese capitals. At Nanking there is also the archæological interest of several Imperial tombs. Down the river at Tanyang are the graves of four emperors who reigned at Nanking, among them the promoter of Buddhism, Liang Wu-ti. At Nanking itself there are the tombs of eleven emperors of the Tsin dynasty, all at one spot. Those of Sun Chüan first emperor of the Wu kingdom, and one notable tomb of the Ming dynasty, are also found here. Fourteen and sixteen hundred years ago Nanking was a busy metropolis, and filled, as Peking is now, with yamens and office-bearers.

The archæologist will, in coming years, we do not know when, reap a harvest from the old Imperial tombs of China. But he must not suppose that they have all been held sacred, and never yielded up their treasures to the sacrilegious robber of the chambers of the dead. Unfortunately there have been two causes at work which have led to the rifling of ancient tombs of this kind. Good Emperors have had their tombs plundered because they were good, and bad Emperors because they were bad. Ts'in Shih Huang caused the tomb of Confucius to be opened and searched for books to burn because he hated Confucian doctrine and meant to exterminate Confucian literature. He would feel no scruple in opening Imperial tombs for reasons belonging to the same category. On the other hand Chinese authors are never weary of heaping obloquy on bad Emperors, so that every one has felt at liberty to rob their tombs as a punishment for their wickedness. Yet there is no doubt that even after all this robbery much hidden knowledge of the past lies in these tombs, waiting for a time when the susceptibilities of the Chinese race will admit of the prosecution of archæological researches.

A word must here be said on mistakes in the identification of tombs. When we meet with ancient tombs it is not possible to accept without inquiry the names applied by the Chinese. Local tradition is not a safe guide. For instance, on the west of Yang-chow city there is a mound to which the name of P'an Ku is given. Now this personage is the legendary First Man, born by evolution from the primitive chaos when Heaven and Earth were like an egg. He is not mentioned earlier than the Han dynasty. Then we find a tomb of Fu Hsi in the province of Shensi, and another in Honan at Ch'ên-chou Fu. Both are probably wrong. In fact the number of traditional errors in the identification of persons supposed to be buried in ancient mounds is not small. The local tradition cannot then be accepted as proof. Certainty in the identification of tombs is to be obtained for all modern ones, and as far back as the Han dynasty. Beyond that point it is necessary to be careful.

THE FRENCH-MAIL PAPERS.

We have at last discovered the reason why Dean Butcher never answered the last telegram sent him by the Trustees. The plain fact of the matter is that he has been busy writing a poem for the *Spectator* on the Pyramids. It is no doubt in unconscious sympathy with his subject that the Dean has been posing all this time as the Sphinx; he always preserved the dramatic unities, and the sphinx-like calm with which he has ignored all messages from Shanghai, and the sphinx-like mystery in which he has shrouded himself, are now fully and satisfactorily explained. But we will not keep our readers in suspense. Dean Butcher is a pensive and graceful versifier, and at one time was very successful in the manufacture of rhymed enigmas. Here is his present effort; subject, 'The Pyramids':—

Full many an embassy hath mortal man
Sent to the skies. The glory and the grace
Of classic temples, and the Gothic spires,
Offerings of beauty, mystic, multiform,
Earth's varied aspiration turned to stone
That spoke, though silent. All save these have told
The story of the seraders. Hellas tells
A message that reveals her people's heart,
And hands down to the wondering centuries
The story of her joyance and her faith
In Beauty's deathless mission. The Christ creed
Hath bid us see in carvèd symbols rare
The graces of the saintly multitude,
And Him who held all sainthood perfected
In One God Manhood. Egypt in these piles
Said all she had to say, and closed the page.
Her Offering is our lesson: "Hold thy peace,
Nor let the world participate and mar
The secrets thou shouldst keep for Heaven alone."

Cairo. CHARLES H. BUTCHER.

Impressive, but obscure. The most interesting article in this week's *Spectator* is on the aborigines of America, taking as its text the sketches of ancient American civilizations recently given by Professor Reville in the Hibbert Lectures. M. Reville, arguing on the assumption, not wholly impregnable, that the civilisations of America were self-developed, without assistance from foreign intercourse, concludes that the ideas common to the Old and New Worlds are not self-derived fancies, but results, natural or even inevitable products, of certain given conditions. On this the *Spectator* remarks:—

If we were about to discuss that matter, we should not accept that statement as fully true; for it leaves out of sight the possibility that in both Terra and Mars a few ideas may have been revealed and not have grown, and may have, by their overmastering force, produced a similarity which otherwise would not exist. If in Terra and Mars both, the idea of forgiving your enemies has been revealed and has mastered the more natural notion of vengeance, there will be in Mars as well as Terra an identity of religious conception as to duty in that matter, and consequently of observances intended to teach that duty, which otherwise could not exist. The idea is, however, sufficiently true and complete to serve as a basis for argument; and M. Reville proceeds to say that in America we have this separate planet, and that therefore the self-derived American creeds, the ancient creeds of the continent, can teach us even more of the laws in obedience to which creeds grow, than the better known faiths of Europe and Asia. They are not borrowed results, but results which have come independently of any teaching from outside, and which must therefore be in some sense inevitable results. The human mind grows them wherever it is, and does not purchase, or steal, or borrow them. Granting the assumption that America is so separate as to be, for purposes of intellectual investigation, in the position of a new planet, that is a most interesting argument, and would justify severe and protracted investigation into the ancient American mind. But then, is that assumption true?

The *Spectator* believes it is not, and a very suggestive article is the result. It concludes with an appeal for the archæological survey of America. Why has this never been properly inaugurated? "We explore Palestine foot by foot, chiefly to discover perfectly useless evidence that the historical portions of the Bible are true,—as if anybody would have invented the Cave of Macpelah; we are deeply and wise interested in Marsotti's researches in Egypt;" India and Australia have been or are being examined, but nothing is being done in the land of the Aztecs, the Toltecs, the Chichimecs, and those many wonderful old races whose very names have vanished. The *Spectator*, in writing about the triumph of M. Ferry, says that he is entitled to all the credit which keen insight and extreme audacity deserve; but there is an element of danger in it. The following is well put:—

There is no reason to shed tears over the Annamese, who will be better governed by French Prefets than by the Mandarins; and no excuse for feeling any commercial jealousy. The British will take possession of the trade of Haiphong, as they have done of the trade Saigon; and will very soon be found exporting all that is exported to Yunnan and the Kwangs. Nor need we grieve greatly over the exposure of the weakness of the Chinese Government. That Government is still too hostile to Europeans to obtain their hearty sympathy, and might, had it been successful, have ventured on measures which would speedily produce a war. But we own we do dread the effect of the success upon the policy of the French Government and its head. That Government has adopted to the full the Gambettist policy of "developing Colonial France" by seizing undefended territories, and the conquest of Annam after so trifling an effort will not only make it ravenous for more, but will induce it to believe that audacity is the only condition of success. We shall be greatly surprised if M. Ferry remains contented with Annam, and if Frenchmen do not begin to dream of an empire in Indo-China which shall rival, perhaps over-shadow, the British Empire in the East.

Siam is to be the next prize, thinks the writer. The *Saturday* writes on 'The Collapse of China,' but contains nothing more of interest. The following would-be comic sentences show the style of the genius who writes on Chinese politics:—

When the bounce of poor Marquess Tseng produced no effect, the grandmother of the Emperor had to be all at once consulted; and now the Ambassador is on his way home. In the present case, the over-zealous officer who has taken upon himself to speak for this

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

wonderful Empire is the irrepressible Li Hung-chang, who seems to come in and out of Chinese politics like a comet. It is said that this Viceroy has made the treaty out of his own head, and is prepared to thrust it down the throat of the Brother of the Sun and Moon. The amount of truth in all this is not difficult to guess at.

Truth contains some excellent things. Second to none is the admirable article headed 'A Plea for Scraps.' There are also two paragraphs, both dealing with matters ecclesiastical, which are well worth consideration. Perhaps some fervent supporter of episcopacy will explain this :—

The Bishops were specially requested to come down and vote in favour of the praiseworthy measure for the abolition of the contemptible sport of pigeon-shooting. Only seven of them attended out of twenty-six, and these duly divided for the Bill. Last Monday week a Bill came on which touches a trifling portion of the Primate's patronage, and no fewer than sixteen prelates appeared to oppose it. There could not be a stronger proof of the uselessness of the Bishops retaining their seats in the House of Lords. The fact is that they never take the trouble to attend except when ecclesiastical questions are to the fore, and on these (as on most others) they invariably vote on the wrong side.

The Bishops will muster in great force to keep up a stupid old superstition about the deceased wife's sister, but when it is a question of protecting innocent dumb creatures from barbarous and revolting inhumanity—inhumanity as gross in its way as that practised in gladiatorial shows—their right reverend lordships don't put themselves about. Cruelty, wanton, aimless, cruelty, is the sin of sins; but it evidently sinks into insignificance beside the slightest suspicion of heterodoxy. Here is the other paragraph to which we have referred :—

I hope the Prayer Book Revision Society, which held its annual meeting last week, will not confine itself to doctrinal questions. There are many other directions in which judicious editing would improve the book. Why, for instance, with all possible respect, should half-a-dozen supplications be offered up on behalf of the Queen in the course of a single Sunday morning? On the other hand, her Majesty's Ministers, who often have need enough of devout intercession, are not alluded to except by implication. Then there is the prayer for the endowment of all the nobility with grace, wisdom, and understanding. Of course, this is a most desirable thing in itself, but it strikes me as almost more than we have a right to ask for. Besides which, there is something akin to irreverence in persisting day after day with a prayer which, after three centuries' constant repetition, still remains unanswered.

That is pleasantly "into" the lords; but it is to be hoped that prayer-book revision will not stop there. The pruning-knife should be very liberally used. The *Pall Mall* contains an article on 'How to Save the Soudan': by One who is Prepared to Do it. Says he: "Soldiers and statesmen have lost the Soudan. It is now for men of business to save it. War and conquest have failed; let commerce now have her turn. Men of business in the City are prepared with a scheme carefully elaborated in all its details * * * by which the Soudan can be saved and a profit made on the transaction. We are prepared, with substantial promises of support amounting to four millions sterling, to form a Soudan Trading Co., under the title of the Central African Trading Association, which will begin operations to-morrow if we can secure a charter from the Egyptian Government covering a concession of a monopoly of trade on the Upper Nile for the next ninety-nine years. As a first step we will begin to lay from Suakin to Berber a narrow-gauge railway, which competent contractors have stated can be constructed in four months from the day they commence operations." We have since heard something about this railway, but nothing, hitherto, of the Company. The *Athenæum* has some excellent reviews. One deals in most pleasant vein with Brewer's History of Henry VIII—a book which is evidently among those "to be read," and in which the picture of Wolsey is said to be a masterpiece. Heine's Memoirs also form the subject of a delightful article. There is a sonnet to Leigh Hunt [his memory, rather?] by Mrs. Cowden Clarke, on hearing that Horsemonger Lane Gaol is to be converted into a playground for children. It runs :—

Dear freedom-loving poet, who here wrote
'Mid prison-bars 'Descent of Liberty'
And larger part of 'Story Rimini,'
Beguiling saddest thoughts by taking note
Of winged fancies that unshackled float
Within a brain, a heart, a memory
Like thine, to bring consoling ministry
Akin to music from the wood-bird's throat,
Thy ever-hopeful spirit may rejoice!
The prison-bars are gone; the walls remain,
But only to enclose the merry voice
And active sports of childhood; now no chain
Save daisy-chain, or link of hand-in-hand,
While dance and play the happy little band.

We conclude with selections from the Literary Gossip of the week.—Mr. Michael Davitt is engaged upon a book, which will be shortly completed, and which will deal with social rather than political questions, the material having been drawn from his prison experiences. It describes his prison life and embodies his views on the convict system in general.—Dean Church will not be allowed to remain for long the latest of Bacon's biographers. Prof. S. R. Gardiner is just completing his article on Bacon's political career for the 'Dictionary of National Biography,' for which Prof. Fowler, of Oxford, has already written a notice of Bacon's literary and philosophical work. It is said that Dr. Abbott is also engaged on a very important contribution to Baconian biography.—Miss Gladstone has written an article on the Princess Alice's letters for one of the monthly reviews.—In the July number of the *Cornhill Magazine* will be commenced a novel by Mr. James Payn, entitled 'The Talk of the Town.'—Mr. Wentworth Higginson has written a 'Life of Margaret Fuller Ossoli' which will be much more nearly complete than anything previously written concerning her. Mr. Higginson in his youth was personally acquainted with Margaret Fuller.—The native printers at Bishopstowe, according to information received from Natal, are now engaged in completing the setting up of the Zulu translation of 'The Pilgrim's Progress,' which Bishop Colenso, at the time of his death, left in an unfinished state.—The author of 'John Bull et son Ile' is engaged on a new book. Meanwhile the *Bangabashi*, a Bengali newspaper of some standing, issued in Calcutta, has recently translated and published piecemeal 'John Bull and his Island' with the heading "Letters from our London Correspondent." It would appear that the mild Hindoo has not much to learn in connexion with cheap editing.—Mr. A. Bronson Alcott, the venerable mystic and author of Concord, Massachusetts, who some time ago suffered a kind of paralysis, has, to the happy surprise of his friends, recovered, and, at the age of eighty-four, is still able to assert his intention of "going out with the century with which he came into the world."

Outports.

VISIT OF H.E. LI HUNG-CHANG TO THE FRENCH ADMIRAL LESPES AT CHEFOO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

For several days preceding the 24th June rumours had been rife that the Imperial Commissioners Chang Chih-tung, Chang P'ei-lun, and Wu Ta-chang, who have been appointed by Her Majesty the Empress of China to examine and report on the coast fortifications in the North of China, would possibly pay a visit to Chefoo on their way to Wei-hai-wei, the newly founded naval port in Shantung. It was then officially announced to Admiral Lespès the Commander-in-Chief of the French Naval Forces in the China seas, that these high functionaries intended calling in here for the purpose of paying a visit to His Excellency early their week.

On the 23rd a squadron of war steamers was signalled as approaching the harbour, and it was expected that the illustrious visitors were on board. A saluting battery was hurried down to the quay, troops in most gorgeously coloured uniforms were marshalled in long files with banners flying, and mounted officers hurried to and fro inspecting the soldiers in preparation for the military reception of the distinguished visitors who were to land at Chefoo; but—and there is nearly always a *but* in these matters—it was discovered that the coming fleet was but the flotilla of alphabetical gunboats arriving from Wei-hai-wei to assist in the reception of the morrow, and troops and officers and officials and the whole gathering of authorities disappeared in disappointment at not being needed on that day to welcome the still greater authorities on their landing.

It had been rumoured that there was even a possibility of His Excellency the Viceroy Li Chung-t'ang coming to Chefoo on the occasion, to pay a friendly visit to the French Admiral, though no certain news could be obtained that this visit would come off. The suspense however was but of short duration, for in the early hours of dawn on Midsummer-day the booming of cannon from the flotilla anchored in the Bay announced the arrival of the Imperial Naval Squadron from the North, and His Excellency Li Chung-t'ang in His Imperial Majesty's corvette *Kang Shih* escorted by the armed turret cruisers *Chao Yung* and *Yang Wei* and accompanied by the *Chin Hai*, *Yang Wu* and *Wei Yuan*, all under the command of Admiral Ting of the Pei-yang Squadron, and having on board the Imperial Commissioners sent forth by the Empress. Salutes were now fired from the French naval squadron at anchor near the islands, and from the batteries on shore, besides platoon firing from the assembled troops. After an interchange of visits of courtesy with the Chinese authorities on shore H.E. the Viceroy and the Imperial Commissioners returned on board and received there a visit from the French Admiral, Commander-in-Chief, with his staff, who was welcomed most cordially by them all and was saluted with the usual number of guns and other official demonstrations due to his rank.

At four o'clock in the afternoon the Viceroy Li Chung-t'ang accompanied by the Viceroy of the Two Kuangs, Chang Chih-tung, Wu Ta-cheng, the General commanding the forces at Port Arthur, with the Tao-t'ai of Chefoo and a numerous suite left the Imperial corvette under continued salutes from the whole Chinese naval squadron, and with all the yards manned of the reverse vessels, and proceeded to the French ironclad *La Galissonnière*, where he was received by the French Admiral and Captain Fleurias of the flagship and the Captains of the *Triomphante* and *Volta*, with a guard of honour on deck and music. The yards of the three French vessels were all manned and the sailors at the word of command repeatedly cheered the Viceroy with "Vive la République."

The Viceregal party were conducted to the Admiral's cabins where several presentations were made to His Excellency by French Admiral. Mr. Detring who stood near the Viceroy explained in Chinese the names and ranks of those who were presented, and the Viceroy with his party were then conducted to another cabin and partook of refreshments, after which they went on deck and were shown the latest

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

repeating rifles and revolvers and small arms. The visitors then went to the main deck, where the working and mechanical loading and movement of one of the big guns were explained to them. The Viceroy seemed to take particular interest in the various features of the armament and fighting discipline of the men in charge of the cannons. After a close inspection of all the battery on the main deck the Admiral conducted the Viceroy and friends to the bridge on the upper deck to witness the working and firing of the guns in the turrets. Previous, however, to this display the crew of the frigate went through a continual firing of repeating rifles over the bulwarks of the deck, and the ceaseless rapidity with which the stream of fire was kept up for some time was a subject of great admiration to the Chinese officials. Firing from the Hotchkiss guns was then shown to them, and the explosion of the shells on contact with the water was very attractive. The turret guns were then fired with shell at the rock on the west end of what is called the English island at a distance of about 4,000 metres. The first shell burst shortly after leaving the gun. The second shell struck the rock just above the water line, with an immense disruption of the ground. The third shell, which was aimed at the middle of the rock so as to show the exactness of the shooting aim, hit the very place intended with great accuracy and terrible force, raising a cloud of *debris* when the missile burst on the rock. The exactness of the firing at 4,000 metres distance was greatly admired, and no doubt gave a practical lesson of the skill and power of French artillery science.

Then came broadsides from the great guns and then a boat appeared with a boom torpedo which was fired off not far from the frigate and cast up vast volumes of water to a considerable height. The Viceregal party then left the Admiral's flag under the usual salutes and went on board another ironclad, the *Triomphante*, commanded by Captain Baux in order to witness the discharge of some Whitehead torpedoes. One of these extraordinary engines of destruction was fired from a bow port, plunged into the water beneath with astounding rapidity, sped its course under the surface for a few hundred metres and rose again, when it was taken charge of by a steam launch sent to pick it up.

Another Whitehead was sent from the port side with similar effect and result, and the Viceroy who was seated on a platform on the top of the ladder so as to afford him a complete view of the submarine journey of the terrible torpedo seemed to be greatly pleased at such an interesting spectacle as this torpedo practice afforded. The French Admiral who had gone on board the *Triomphante* to receive the Viceroy then explained through Mr. Detring as interpreter the various particulars of torpedo warfare, which no doubt impressed his Excellency with their efficacy. The whole Viceroyal party, after thanking the French Admiral for the kind reception he had given them, then left the *Triomphante* for their own vessels. The yards of the French and Chinese Naval Squadrons were all manned, and a deafening cannonade from all the guns afloat sounded the last adieu and final honours to the Viceroy and his companions.

The last previous visit of H.E. Li Chung-t'ang to a French Admiral was on the 14th September, 1875, when the Viceroy went on board the *Atalante* and was received there by the French Admiral Véron with great cordiality of feeling, an event which was described in the *N.-C. Daily News* a few days later. The present visit following as it closely does the visit of Admiral Lespès to Peking and his successful Convention conducted through Captain Fournier by which peace was assured to China, no doubt augurs well for a continuation of the *entente cordiale* so happily established between France and China, and further satisfactory conclusion of the promised commercial Treaty with France as soon as the French Minister, Monsieur Patenotre, arrives at Peking.

Chefoo, 25th June.

P.S.—H.E. Chang Pei-lun was detained by sickness on board the Chinese flagship, so that he was not among those who visited the French flagship. The Viceroy and Imperial Commissioners with the Chinese fleet left Chefoo at 2 a.m. on the 25th for Wei-hai-wei. It is expected that H.E. Li will again call in at Chefoo on his way to Taku.

PEKING.

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.)

You have no doubt already heard that General Liu Ming-chuan, the promoter of railways and formerly Military Governor of Chihli, who came back lately to Court after a mourning vacation, has just been ordered to Tai-wan Fu, and that all the Tao-t'ais and other civil officers in Formosa are to be under him. The Decree does not actually withdraw the control of the present Fu-t'ai, but by the arrangement now made, Liu is almost in the position of Governor of Formosa.

You will also have heard by telegram that seven new men are ordered to join the Tsung-li Yamên. The tone now ruling is a tendency to make all departments of the public service thoroughly efficient, and to place all under the control of thoroughly able men. This is a good sign. It strikes at the root of much of the incompetency and maladministration which you so constantly and so justly criticise.

All the reports that reach you of Prince Kung coming back to power, or of the probabilities of a breach with France when the details of the late Treaty come to be considered, are, I believe, without any good foundation. At the time I write everything has a peaceful and settled look. But the Government has taken a new departure. It means to be *energetic*. The appointment of Liu Ming-chuan to Formosa, for example, means more than appears upon the surface. Formosa is a breading-ground for pirates, a possible battle-field for Japan, a near neighbour to Liuchiu, and sufficiently close to Corea to be of military service in case of need. Liu's appointment evidences an intention to reform abuses, to utilise the position, to guard against attack, and to strengthen the Empire on the coast. All this indicates a change of policy on which the Chinese Government may be congratulated, and which has the hearty approval of the Chinese here.

27th June.

HANGCHOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

On the first day of the fifth moon, while many of the high officials were assembled at the Confucian Temple engaged in the semi-monthly offerings, a disappointed office-seeker attempted to take the life of the Provincial Treasurer. He drew a pistol, but, as he was unskilful in the use of the weapon, the by-standers prevented him from doing any harm with it.

He was found to be an ex-magistrate who had been waiting ten years for reappointment. Recently, on making application again (probably the hundredth time) to the Treasurer, that dignitary snubbed him rather severely; and, becoming desperate, he attempted to kill him. The Governor wanted to deal with him severely, but the Treasurer, feeling that he had given some provocation, wished the matter hushed up, and so it was made *a case of insanity*, and passed over. Two days ago, the unfortunate man, rendered desperate by poverty and disappointment, put an end to his own life by jumping into a well.

This turn in the affair makes it rather a serious case for the Fau-t'ai, as it will be a delicate matter to report the affair to the Throne and shield him from blame.

25th June.

NANKING.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

In view of the unfortunate reopening of the Franco-Chinese difficulty, the Viceroy Tsêng Kuo-ch'üan is pressing on with the defences of the Yangtsze. New forts are in course of erection at Kuan-hsiang Shan and other important positions, His Excellency having appointed Ch'ên Chan-t'ang to superintend the work. Ch'ên Tao-t'ai was formerly manager of the Government Defence Bureau, in which post he [redacted] now succeeded by T'ang Hsiao-ch'in, who has four other T'ao-t'ais to assist him.

Ch'ên Pao-chên, the Assistant Imperial Commissioner for defence of the Southern Ocean, [redacted] expected to reach here in one or two days.

I have just received a letter from a friend who describes what he saw on board the new Chinese war-vessel *K'ai Tsi*. He says:—"I had to cross the river on some business, when I saw the ship anchored in midstream, and the sailors being drilled. It certainly was an interesting sight. All the orders were given in English, and the promptitude with which they were obeyed reminded one almost of a British man-of-war. I accordingly went on board, and interviewed Captain Chu. When I hinted that I had some knowledge of naval matters he ordered the sailors to go through their drill again, and afterwards showed me over the ship. I remarked that the vessel was equal to any fast-steaming ship in western navies, but that there was something wrong with the steam conductor,—in which Captain Chu agreed."—It must be noted that the Captain referred to had never entered any naval school, but he has commanded foreign-made gunboats for more than twenty years, and is thoroughly acquainted with naval construction and mechanism. It is to be wished that the Chinese navy could boast more officers comparable in experience and seamanship with Captain Chu.

30th June.

TOKIO.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The weather continues most uncertain, and the thermal changes have latterly been most trying. Last week the thermometer fluctuated between 88° and 50°, and over 3 inches of rain fell. These sudden changes have been highly injurious to the health, so much so that it was feared that cholera might make its appearance any moment. Only two cases were reported during the past week, however; and one case of small-pox—fatal—made its appearance in Yokohama. The sanitary precautions taken in the capital this year have been much more effectual than heretofore, although some neighbourhoods were rendered almost impassable by means of the garbage brought to light by the sanitary inspectors,—and cast into the middle of the high road.

The Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha, the latest rival of the Mitau Bishi Steamship Company, is doing a great deal of praiseworthy work. Ports heretofore never visited by steamers are now in regular steam communication with Yokohama. Among others, Yokkaichi is decidedly looking up. This port is to be entirely reconstructed, and a railway laid between it and Ozaki. The expenses are estimated at 500,000 yen, of which sum the residents in Yokkaichi will contribute two-fifths in five annual instalments, the Government to look after the remainder. Both the Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha and the Mitau Bishi Company have contributed the goodly sum of 2,000 yen

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

towards the contribution of a signal station on the Western Hatoba at Yokohama.

The sale of the Government Loan Bonds having been entrusted to the care of the Oriental Bank, a good bit has been said on the subject of the closing of that institution, and fears have been very generally expressed that the bonds would fall off greatly in value. If the *Bukka Shimpo* is correct, and this journal ■ supposed to be the most trustworthy representative of the commercial press, the bonds have increased in value, and the foreign demand for them is steadily going upward. This is supposed to be due to the fact that the revision of treaties will give foreigners greater opportunities of making good investments in Japan than ever before; but it is believed in Yokohama, at all events, that this is rather to be ascribed to the good offices of the Oriental Bank, which is said to have ushered the bonds into home markets under very favourable auspices. However, *nous verrons*.

Everybody in Tokio is working under high pressure at present; 'everybody' meaning the world of officialdom. The revision of the treaties is supposed to be a matter of only a few days longer, and the most conflicting reports are cast wholesale among the public. *Che sara, sara*, most undoubtedly, but what actually awaits us in the immediate future is most puzzling to predict. At all *events*, it seems more than probable than Japan will be thrown open to foreign commerce and travel, but not to foreign residence, in the interior. This, however, only on the condition that the foreign representatives listen to Japan's requests.

25th June.

FROM SHANSI TO YUNNAN.

(NOTES OF A JOURNEY THROUGH CHINA.)

February 15th.—I forgot to mention in its proper place that Lao Mien-chou is famous for its peaches, some of which the magistrate is bound to send annually as a present to all the superior officials at Chêng-tu. The peaches are said to be large, juicy, and most delicious. This does not happen to be the proper season for them, so I am unable to verify what I am told of their good quality. This place is also famous for a medicinal plant or root called *meh-tung*, 麥冬, which is exported to all the provinces in the empire.

We marched at half-past six, through a fine street lined with shops, some of which were already being opened for business, and passed a couple of fine large temples, which, like most other public or memorial buildings in Szechuan, have an air of grandeur and substantiality about them not generally seen in the other provinces excepting Kuangtung, as far as I can remember. We passed lots of men carrying fine white salt in blocks of semi-cylindrical shape, and about 50lbs. each in weight. We went up the Huan-ma Poh, where a tablet is erected to the memory of Pang Tung, a statesman of the Shu Han dynasty who here exchanged horses with his Imperial master, and thus sacrificed his own life to save the Emperor's; for the enemy, having been ordered to slay the man on the white horse, did so, but not before the rider had exchanged his seat with the brave Pang Tung. We halted at the top of the White Horse Pass, Pŏ-ma Kuan, and there we visited Pang Tung's grave and memorial temple, both of which are kept in good order. Descending, we had a fine view of plains and undulations on the west and south-west of us. We met lots of men carrying fine white hemp from Wên-kiang Hsien, tobacco from Sui-fang Hsien, and indigo from Pên Hsien. We now zig-zagged up and down over low hills, till at 8.40 we went south across a fine plain, with a pagoda and town some distance ahead of us. Passing out of the fine part of the plain we went across a patch of sand, gravel and pebbles, and crossed a stream on a plank or two, but saw a fine large stone bridge of over a hundred spans some distance down on the left, where it is necessary to cross in the spring and summer, or wet season. We now halted for breakfast in a large town of over 300 families, called Huang-hsü Chêu, having done 24 *li* on a good road. Here I saw two lamas at breakfast, one of them very much like a western foreigner, with a beard and a powerful frame. Each house in the town appeared full of people; in one I saw four women and some twelve or fifteen children from one to five years old, and of course men are not wanting. Everybody is clean and well dressed, excepting the beggars, who are of course as loathsome as the rest of their calling. We met lots of low barrows wheeling grain to market. Towns and villages were seen right and left throughout this continuation of the fine plain, the whole of them surrounded by clumps of cedars and bamboos. As a rule the habitations of the living are surrounded by bamboos, and those of the dead by pines or cedars. Fruit trees of various kinds are also numerous enough, and piles of sugar-cane attest the productiveness of the soil.

Later, we passed a large grave, mound, and tablet erected to the memory a of famous historical personage of the Tung, or Eastern, Han dynasty, Tsin Min or some other such name which I do not now remember rightly, who was a native of this place. We then sighted a city ahead, and on arriving there halted for twenty minutes to allow the chairs to come up, whilst we went over a fine temple erected to the memory of Wân Chang Ti Chün, by Imperial order, in the 6th year of the Emperor Kia-ching, who decreed that the same sacrificial honours should be paid to this deified personage that are paid to the God of War, Kuan-ti. The temple is in good order, and a school is kept in it, the sagacious master of which has posted up a long list of regulations for the conduct of his pupils, one of the rules being that no scholar shall be permitted to smoke opium, opium having been introduced into the country by foreign barbarians for the sake of enriching themselves, impoverishing the great Empire and injuring its inhabitants. Mark that, ye foreigners, and repent and weep; for your iniquities are great! I have with me now about eighty men, and only three of them do not smoke opium. If not taken habitually by all the rest, it is so by the greater number of them, the others taking it occasionally as a balm for all their woes—to dispel their grief, to cure their ailings, and to drown their cares and sorrows, whenever they imagine that they are oppressed by such. At half-past eleven we entered Teh-yang Hsien by the north gate, turned up a fine street, and halted at the quarters prepared for us, having done another 20 ■ since breakfast.

February 16th.—The spirit of perverseity is abroad again. The wretched magistrate who on arriving yesterday promised to furnish everything, sent beans but no bran for the horses, rice but no fuel for the men, a wretched substitute for a dinner for me, and no money for the coolies. I therefore resolved to do as I had done before, that is, to decline to receive anything less than was due. Accordingly I was brought to a standstill this morning, the coolies refusing to go without money, and I having none to give. Fortunately at 10 o'clock my man Liu returned from Cheng-tu with a little money. I changed Tls. 10 into cash instantly, and gave the coolies the money they required to carry us the next 30 *li* to Han-chou. Then the yamenites turned up and said they would give 3,000 cash to the coolies, which was politely declined. They returned in a short time and offered 6,000—also politely declined. I told them that they must refund me my ten taels or nothing, and so started. The innkeeper insisted on being paid for a day's board and lodging, although the yamenites had appointed us our billet at his inn, and so I was obliged to pay that also. All these people are the same. If the magistrate treats us well, or even justly, the people are our friends; but the moment the magistrate makes a grimace they become exceedingly annoying, exacting all sorts of charges for this, that, and the other.

We marched out of the city by a fine street which was made noisome by a horrible stench from the sewers and filth lying about everywhere. We passed some fine large temples and several *pai-fangs* in various stages of decay. Rotten mat-awnings, spread over the street here and there so low that the chairs barely cleared them, spoiled the effect of the otherwise fine street. At 11.45 we passed out of the south gate, through the suburb, then through a continuation of the fine plain we went through yesterday. The road was good again to-day, and carts and carriages might easily be used on it. Lots of small wheelbarrows laden with various things were met, and the miserable mules were exceedingly mulish when meeting them, shying and refusing to pass them when in motion. The country looked fine—splendid even. Green fields and ponds of water everywhere, towns and villages here and there, brooks and rills conveniently shaded by tall slim bamboos, farms and sepulchres hidden by cedars, and the road almost a continuous stream of people going one way or another. It is easily seen that we are drawing near a great centre. Everybody seems to be going to or coming from Chêng-tu, the fine capital of this fine province. We crossed a river on a flat stone bridge, with dragons' heads and tails sticking out over each pier, the heads being up-stream, as usual, and the tails down-stream.

We halted for a quarter of an hour in a large market-town called Hsiao-han Chêu, with a population of over 200 families. Two hours later we halted at what may be called the fag end of the suburb, near a temple, and the birth place of some famous persons■ called Yuen-hua Lao-tan, who studied philosophy and attained immortality in the range of mountains west of this, called Yuen-hua Shan. The chairs having come up, we marched again and crossed a river on a fine flat-stone bridge, about fifty yards long. I noticed several boats near the bridge. Coming to the city, we went along west, with the city wall close under our left hand. The wall is only about twelve feet, high built of bricks, on a two-foot stone foundation. At a quarter-past three we entered the north gate of Han-chou, and halted close by, at the inn prepared by my men, where nothing was to be had but quarters. Straw had to be bought and chopped for the horses, and even hot water had to be purchased at some neighbouring stall; the innkeeper, not having made up his mind to commence business for some days longer, could furnish us nothing but the quarters.

HAIPHONG.

It may perhaps interest your readers to learn that the French have made a commencement with their protective Customs-tariff. Hitherto all goods arriving from Hongkong paid 5 per cent. *ad valorem*, those from Saigon 2½ per cent. Now, by order of General Millot, foreign goods arriving from Saigon pay also 5 per cent.; whilst French goods only pay 2½ ■r cent.

The French steamer *Nam-vian* was kept by the Admiral three days in Hais d'Along with the final intention to send her direct back to Hongkong, because she had Chinese passengers on board, which the steamers have brought all the time during the blockade. After all the Admiral permitted the steamer to proceed to Haiphong to

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

discharge her cargo, but neither she nor the *Saltee*, which steamer arrived here on the 16th, were allowed to land any passengers (Chinese), and the whole lot (from both steamers) were sent back to Hongkong by the *Nam-sain* on the 17th instant.

Why the French Government again enforces the blockade, and so strictly, it is difficult to say; but most likely the cause is the new outbreak of hostilities on the part of Chinese, Black Flags, and others in upper Tonquin along the Rivière Claire. So they do not want any more Chinese coming just now to the country, being afraid that there may be amongst them friends of the Black Flags, in which they may not be altogether mistaken.

In my opinion we have not yet seen the end of the fighting in Tonquin. Who knows that the Chinese Government does not still assist the Black Flags and supply them with men and arms? What are even written promises with the Chinese Government?—*Daily Press Cor.*

19th June.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

April 24th.—(1) A Memorial by the Governor of Kirin. It is now three years since a Custom-house was established in Kirin for the collection of duty on cultivated ginseng shoots and other medicines. The time appointed by law has therefore arrived for fixing the annual sum to be received from the Custom-house. The Custom-house receipts however have decreased so much that it is impossible to calculate an average; and the Memorialist consequently begs that the sum may not be fixed till after three years more have elapsed.

In the 7th year of the reign, the receipts were 27,105 strings of a thousand cash.

In the 8th year, they were 18,131 strings.

In the 9th year, they were 13,678 strings.

From each of these sums 15 per cent. has to be deducted for expenses in collecting.

Moreover during the three years, the price of ginseng shoots has decreased from a bove 200 cash to 70 or 80 cash per ounce, which makes it impossible to hope that the trade or the revenue will become speedily flourishing again.—Referred to the Board.

(2) A Postscript Memorial by Tso Tsung-t'ang. Chao Yu-ch'en, late Prefect of Nanking and now Salt Commissioner, recently subscribed Tls. 1,000 to the Shantung famine relief fund. On being asked what form of reward he would prefer for his generosity, he replied that he had not thought of receiving any recompense; still he begged that a Memorial Arch might be erected in honour of his parents, who were too poor to follow to any great extent their naturally charitable inclinations, and in conformity with whose precepts he gave money. The Memorialist recommends the request to His Majesty's favourable attention.—Granted by Rescript.

April 25th.—(1) A Memorial by Kin-shun requesting posthumous honours for K'orh-mang-a.

K'orh-mang-a was a Sibo Tartar settled in Ili, with the brevet rank of Major-General. He had been many years the High Officer in command of the Chahar corps in Ili, and was highly distinguished for his services in connection with them and in restoring the Po-lo-ta-la Barrier. He had also greatly exerted himself in instituting military colonization. When Ili was given back to China a few years ago, he came there to see about the land belonging to the Chahar corps. On his return home, three days after leaving Po-lo-ta-la, he stopped for the night at Sa-morh-yen-pu-la-k'o, where he was assassinated in his tent while asleep by a Uighur Mussulman named Pa-larh, who, it may be remarked, was captured and punished as he deserved. K'orh-mang-a having perished while on public service in this most unfortunate manner, the Emperor is requested to grant him posthumous honours of exceptional distinction.—Granted by Rescript.

26th April.—(1) A Decree. A complaint has been presented at the office of the Governor of Shun-t'ien Fu that the people on the south shore of the New River are going to cut through the embankment on the north side, and thus make the water continue to flow into the great hollow, and those on the north of the Ch'ing River are building dams across it and stopping the flow of the water, so that it cannot escape. Wen-an has long suffered from inundations, and the matters alleged are of serious importance. Li Hung-chang is ordered to consult with the Governor of Shun-t'ien Fu as to what will be the best means of draining this tract and preventing floods.

(2) A Decree. Ch'eng Ting-feng proposes that the arrears of taxes in the province of Chihli from 1872 to 1882 be all remitted; and that for the future the local authorities be instructed to report any general distress immediately it occurs, so that the taxes may not be levied.—Let the Board of Revenue consider this and report upon it.

(3) A Postscript Memorial by the Governor of Hupei. When Governor-General of Shensi and Kansuh, Tso Tsung-t'ang borrowed from Chinese and foreign merchants a sum of Tls. 3,500,000, with interest at the rate of 1.25 per cent per month. The loan was to be repaid in twelve half-yearly instalments by the Canton, Foochow, Ningpo, Shanghai and Hankow Custom-houses. The share of the Hankow Custom-house was Tls. 700,000 with Tls. 341,415 interest, which sums were to be deduced from the subsidy annually contributed to the expenses of the Turkestan war. Ten instalments have been paid, and the eleventh instalment of Tls. 58,300 with interest Tls. 8 775, total Tls. 67,075 is now due and ready to be paid. But instructions have been received from the Board of Revenue to deduct from the portion due to the Chinese merchants, the amount that Hu Kuang-yung, (the banker Hu) is indebted to the Government. The Shanghai Custom-house, however, has written to say that Hu Kuang-yung has no share in the loan. This indeed only rests on Hu Kuang yung's assertion. But as the Shanghai Custom-house writes that the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has applied for payment of the instalment, and the promises made to foreigners ought to be kept, the money has been transferred to the Shanghai Custom-house in order that it may be paid to the Bank as soon as the Board's instructions are received.—Rescript: Let the Board concerned take note.

(4) Postscript Memorial by the same. A Lieutenant Colonel in retirement, named T'ang Yung-fu, found his younger brother secretly selling the trees on a hill which was the common property of the whole family. On T'ang Yung-fu's attempting to prevent the sale, a quarrel commenced between them, ending in a fight in which the younger brother was killed. As the law requires, the Memorialist requests that T'ang Yung-fu may be cashiered so as to facilitate his trial for the offence. T'ang Yung-fu served originally in the ranks, was promoted for his courage and became a captain in 1879. He is now in temporary retirement waiting for a post of Lieutenant Colonel, to which rank he has been promoted.

April 27th.—(1) Sheng-yü, Senior Supervisor of Instruction, and a member of the Imperial Clan presents a Memorial.

The Memorialist has seen in the *Gazette* a Decree of the Empress ordering the Grand Council to consult Prince Ch'un on matters of importance, till the Emperor attains his majority.

He supposes that Her Majesty has found that Prince Kung and the late members of the Council were not competent to govern the country at the present juncture, and has therefore appointed other Ministers; and, as these Ministers were new to their work she felt compelled to impose this duty on Prince Ch'un, whom she can trust implicitly. But the Prince's relation to the Emperor is of such a nature that he ought not to have anything to do with the administration of public affairs; and that he feels this himself is shown by his having with most honourable disinterestedness resigned all his appointments when the present reign commenced.

The Grand Council is the actual governing body in the State. Its members are obliged to toil incessantly and are exposed to much obloquy. Every member of it is the mark of public criticism, and is forced, in making and cancelling appointments, constantly to incur the hatred of others. It is to be feared that the Prince will suffer in health; and Her Majesty probably will not like to expose him to the reproaches of others, though his patriotism is such that he will not regard what any one may say.

A Decree issued in the 4th year of Chia Ch'ing distinctly laid down the rule that Princes should not be appointed members of the Grand Council, and ordered the retirement of Prince Ch'eng, who during an unusual press of work had been made temporarily to take part in the business of the Council. His Majesty then reigning evidently considered that a Prince of the Blood was of too high rank for employment as a Minister, that he could neither have the stimulus of hopes of promotion, nor could he endure to suffer punishment, if he were blameworthy. The appointment of Prince Kung in recent years was a matter of expediency and not of principle; and after all his personal relation to the Throne was very different from that of Prince Ch'un.

The Memorialist for these reasons beseeches the Empress to withdraw the appointment and rely on the zeal of the Grand Council. Matters of unusual importance might be referred to the whole body of Ministers and a general consensus of opinion obtained, which would not fail to be a sure guide. The Prince could embody in a Memorial any advice which he has to offer; or his opinion could be asked in a private audience. His assistance might thus be obtained, without his holding any formal appointment.

The Memorialist, being unable to keep silence, presents this paper after long and anxious reflection and with much fear and trembling.

(2) A Memorial by Hsi-chün, Junior Supervisor of Instruction on the same subject as the last.

The Memorialist considers that the appointment of Prince Ch'un is the result of the Empress's desire to strengthen the government and rectify errors; and he is sure that the Prince's loyalty and energy will justify the trust placed in him.

He remarks that the retirement of the Prince at the beginning of the reign not only won for him the admiration of all men, but was also the cause of his recovering his health. It is certain that the Prince will show firmness and decision in the present moment of difficulty. But on the other hand, there is danger that the Grand Councillors may attempt to shift their burden on to his shoulders, and consult him about everything, forcing him to be always in the Council Hall or resorting themselves to his house, the one being wearisome for him, the other unseemly for the government of the country. Further if anything be done with which fault has to be found, they will shelter themselves behind his name; and he is too magnanimous to refuse the responsibility.

The Memorialist also fears that Censors who have the boldness to point out defects in the government will not like to say anything against the Prince, while crowds

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

of flatterers, who have their own ends to gain, will prevent the truth from reaching his ears. Though he will not fall into their snares, still by accepting the proferred position he will have changed from his original intention of retirement. For these reasons the Empress is prayed to withdraw the Decree and only to consult the Prince privately.—For reply to this and the preceding Memorial, see Decrees in *Gazette* of 14th April.

(3) A Postscript Memorial by Hsi-yuan. The Memorialist has received a communication from the Governor of Shêngking, concerning a certain case of importance which the latter had been ordered to try in the province of Kirin. The Governor informs him of the termination of the case and encloses a memorandum of the sentences passed. It appears from the memorandum that one Ching Pao-chen, since deceased, was joint administrator with Liu Wei-chen of a Government Land Office. Liu Wei-chen sent Ching Pao chen a thousand strings of cash. But Ching Pao-chen, knowing that the money was derived from illegal fees, declined to accept it. It was sent to him again after he returned to the City, and then he kept it. As Ching Pao-chen is dead, no further notice need be taken of him. But orders were given to recover the money from his family. The officer entrusted with this duty has reported that Ching Pao-chen has only one wife and one child, the latter blind from birth and therefore incapable of earning anything, and both absolutely penniless. A search in the land registers also shows that Ching Pao-chen left no landed property. His relations moreover are very poor. Under these circumstances the Memorialist wishes to be instructed whether the Emperor desires that the restitution of the money be enforced or not.—Rescript: The money need not be recovered. Let the Board concerned take note.

(4) The Governor of Chekiang reports the despatch of the whole quota of tribute rice furnished by his Province for the past year.

As has already been reported, piculs 182,100 were despatched on the 20th February.

On the 7th March, there were further despatched piculs 98,000 on board forty junks, making, with piculs 67,500 shipped by steamer, piculs 165,500, the total second instalment.

On the 21st March there were also despatched piculs 49,800, on board nineteen junks, making, with piculs 42,600 shipped by steamer, the third and last instalment, piculs 92,400.

The total of the three instalments is piculs 420,200. It was shipped about 20 days earlier than in other years. Rescript: Noted.

April 28th.—(1) A Decree. Chang Chih-tung reports that K'uei-ying, Deputy Lieutenant Governor of Kuei-hua Ch'eng, is guilty of great misconduct in his public capacity. He is perverse and intentionally obstructive, and shows partiality in cases between Chinese and Mongols.

The Military Lieutenant Governor of Chahar is ordered to enquire into the truth of these charges and furnish a report on the subject.

(2) Chao Erh-sun presents a Memorial requesting the Empress to withdraw her decree ordering the Grand Council to consult Prince Ch'un on matters of importance.

The Memorial is very similar to the two on the same subject printed in the *Gazette* of the day previous. It lays special stress on the necessity of the Grand Council's not being allowed to shift the responsibility of its acts on to any other person. The Memorialist supposes that the Empress took the step in question, because she believed the new members of the Council unable to cope with the difficulties of the day, or because this was the only means by which she could induce them to take office. Though the Grand Council is selected from among the most distinguished of the great men of the country, who are considered most competent to perform its arduous duties; still the Memorialist is certain that if these duties are entrusted to the Prince, his unequalled abilities will enable him to steer the nation safely through the greatest difficulties; and, in spite of the feeling against his so doing, his relation to the Emperor is such that he can not refuse to give his services when ordered. But on the other hand his application at the beginning of the present reign to retire from all his appointments, as well as the Empress's compliance with his request will be handed down to the admiration of all future ages.

There is the further difficulty that the business of the Council cannot be carried on in the Prince's private palace, that the Prince cannot frequent the Council Chamber without becoming an ordinary member of the Council, and that if he be given a separate office in the Imperial Palace, it will be difficult, with two Chambers, to preserve the secrecy which affairs of state demand. The country has never been governed in this manner heretofore, and it is impossible that the Prince should really be satisfied in his secret heart. When perhaps at some future day the Ministers of the Council try to shift on to him the blame of their shortcomings, his earnest efforts to govern the country will not be appreciated throughout the Empire like his former desire for retirement.

Hitherto the Empress has left the details of the administration to the Grand Council, while frequently consulting the Prince and preserving for herself the ultimate decision. This system, which has worked so well, is practically the same as the new one, except that the latter gives the Council an opening for shifting its responsibility on to the Prince.

The Memorialist therefore beseeches the Empress to withdraw her decree. While retaining the supreme control in her own hands, let her give the Grand Council the practical administration of affairs of state, so that its members will recognize their responsibility and do their utmost. She of course can always demand the advice of the Prince without there being a formal order that the Grand Council shall consult him.—For Reply see *Gazette* of 14th April.

(3) A Memorial by T'ang Ch'iung, (recently holding the post of Governor of Yunnan.)

Tuan Yung-chao, who died last year at the age of twenty, was a native of the district of K'un-ming, and obtained the Decree of Provincial Graduate at the Examination of 1882. In the spring of last year he went to Peking for the Metropolitan Examination. While thus absent from home he heard of the death of his father, who held the post of Director of Studies at Chao Chou. He at once returned home with all possible speed, but at the sight of his father's corpse he fainted away, and there remained without food or drink for three days at the end of which he expired. His wife overcome by grief his loss attempted to hang herself, but was prevented from so doing by members of her household. Shortly afterwards she succeeded in taking poison and died from its effect.

The Memorialist, who has satisfied himself of the truth of the story, prays that the Emperor will be pleased to bestow a Memorial Arch in recognition of this case of filial and conjugal affection.—Granted by Rescript.

April 29th.—(1) The Governor of Kiangsu reports the sentence passed by him in a case of unintentional homicide. The criminal, whose name is T'ao Tsê haün, is a native of Nanking. His father, when in command of a body of volunteers, was killed in an encounter with banditti in 1860. In recognition of his father's merits T'ao Tsê-haün was given the hereditary rank of Yun-ch'i-yü; and he was afterwards attached to the Governor-General's Brigade in order that he might receive military instruction. Wishing to perfect himself in rifle-shooting for the monthly competition, he was in the habit of practising at a target in a mulberry plantation which stood in some waste land in an unfrequented spot within the walls. One day last October, when he was shooting, the deceased and another man came with some donkeys along a neighbouring road. One of the donkeys ran off the road, and the deceased, in following it, came into the line of fire, and was killed by T'ao Tsê-haün, who could not see him for the trees.

At the trial of the case it was proved that T'ao Tsê-haün had no quarrel with the deceased, and that the act was quite unintentional. The legal punishment for accidentally killing anyone by firing a gun in the direction of a town or village is 100 blows and transportation to a distance of 3,000 *li*. This sentence has been provisionally passed on T'ao Tsê-haün, and ten taels have been exacted from him to pay for the deceased's funeral.

Rescript: Let the Board of Punishments consider and report.

(2) The Governor of Kiangsu furnishes a port on the amount of duties collected at the Yangchow Custom-house during the past year.

The total sum collected for the year from December 1882 to November 1883, is Tls. 44,113. This includes Tls. 2,521, duty on salt, received by the Huai-an Comptroller and forwarded direct to the Inspector General of the Grain Transport. The remainder, Tls. 41,590, with balance from preceding year Tls. 25,066, makes a total of Tls. 66,656, which has been disposed of as follows:—

	Tls.
Peking Subsidy	30,000
Imperial Household for Ginseng	4,000
Carriage, cost of remitting, etc.	231
Balance to be retained till next year.	32,425
Total	Tls. 66,656

With the system of issuing Grand Chops at present in force, very little money can be collected, and not accounted for; and the receipts are slightly higher than in the preceding three years. Still the amount does not come up to the sum fixed by the Board. This is to be ascribed to the fact that the trade is chiefly carried on in foreign steamers, and the goods sent up country under transit passes. The receipts of the Chinkiang Customs under the latter head for the corresponding period amount to Tls. 108,000, which more than covers the deficiency. Besides this, trade was injured by floods in Shantung and Chihli, and grain for the districts which suffered was allowed to pass duty free. As the insufficiency of the amount is really to be ascribed to the above causes and not any fault on the part of the collectors, the Memorialist prays that according to precedents only 15 per cent. of the deficiency may be required to made up by the Custom House and that no penalties may be inflicted.

Rescript:—Let the Board of Revenue consider and report.

April 30th.—(1) Chi-ko, Military Lieutenant Governor of Je-ho, presents a memorial describing some extensive river works about to be executed at that city. Among the operations contemplated are, first, the deepening and widening of the river for a distance of 17,100 feet; secondly, building embankments to keep the water away from the wall of the Imperial Palace, and, further down stream, to protect the official buildings and private houses in the town; and finally the construction of a bridge. The contemplated cost is in all something over Tls. 38,000, of which Tls. 30,000 have already been forwarded from the Provincial Treasury by the Governor-General, Li Hung-chang. Rescript: Noted.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

(1) Li Hung-chang reports the sentence passed on a man guilty of the murder of his brother and another person.

Li Chin-shih and Li Chin-yü were two brothers belonging to the District of Ch'ü-chow. A relation of theirs, being without children, intended to adopt Li Chin-yü as son and heir; but, not being satisfied with his general conduct, adopted the elder brother, Li Chin-shih, instead. Li Chin-yü, thus losing the inheritance he had expected, nourished a grudge against his brother, which was heightened by the latter's angry remonstrances against his disorderly manner of life. Finally, Li Chin-yü determined to kill his brother and get possession of his property. A distant connection, named Yü Mo-tzü, was induced by a promise of half the property to join in the commission of the crime. The two men, having enticed Li Chin-shih to a lonely place, set upon him and cut his throat, after which they returned home, Yü Mo-tzü taking the opportunity to rob the dead man of his purse. A month afterwards, when Yü Mo-tzü happened to be away from home, his father went into his room to look for something and found the purse belonging to Li Chin-shih. Thinking the owner had left it there accidentally in his life-time, he took it to the widow. When she heard where it had been found, her suspicions were aroused, and she lodged a complaint at the Magistrate's office. First Yü Mo-tzü was arrested, and then Li Chin-yü. The latter persisted in denying his guilt and tried to induce Yü Mo-tzü to support him in so doing, but Yü Mo-tzü refused. Li Chin-yü then determined to kill him, and one day when the warders' backs were turned for an instant, beat out his brains with a brick from the stove.

The sentence passed on Li Chin-yü for the two murders is that he be executed at once and be branded on the cheek with the words "cruel murderer." The warder who was immediately in charge would have been sentenced to transportation for life, but he has been reported as since dead.—Rescript: Let the Board of Punishments consider and report without delay.

May 1st.—A Decree. An enquiry is ordered to be held at Canton concerning the death of Hsü Han-chang, Magistrate of Lo-hui. The Police-master of Lo-hui reported that the deceased magistrate had long suffered from liver disease, which caused him to put an end to himself by poison. The deceased's son accuses the Director of Studies and the Police-master of having driven his father to take poison. The case is ordered to be investigated at Canton by the high authorities of the Province.

(2) A Decree. Ch'ang-ching, Colonel of the Plain Yellow Banner at Nanking, has been found guilty of retaining for himself every year Tls. 1,000 and more, which ought to have been spent in the purchase of horses for the public service. He is cashiered, without the possibility of re-employment; and the money embezzled is to be recovered from him.

(3) The fifteen soup-kitchens established in the five divisions of Peking are to be kept open for another month, as many persons still resort to them, and it is some time before the wheat harvest will be gathered.

(4) A Memorial by the Military Lieut.-Governor of Orumtsi on the reorganization of the official staff in that city.

The Memorialist finds on enquiry that if the government service at Orumtsi were re-established on its original footing, the officials attached to his own office would be much over one hundred; and in addition there are the staffs of the high officers commanding troops. But, unfortunately, since the war there has been a great want of men. On the two frontiers in several years only 300 Manchus have been collected together, half of whom have merely a military education, while the other half are engaged as agricultural colonists, and know but little of letters. There is a great deal of official work to be done, which is increased by the commercial relations now existing with Russia. If officials are sent from Peking, there is no means of rewarding them, as the expense prevents their being sent back, on the completion of their term of three years; to receive permanent appointments at Peking; and all the Sub-prefectures and Magistracies in the New Dominion are filled up from the staff of the Supreme Governor. In the want therefore of Chinese or Manchu candidates of sufficient education, Memorialist can only propose to employ the most intelligent and trustworthy civil or military officers from his own staff. Moreover, seeing the difficulty both of attracting suitable persons and of retaining them afterwards, he proposes to allot to them the same allowances as are given to military officers of corresponding rank, together with such extra pay as will enable them to live. To the Memorial is appended a list of the appointments to be made and pay to be given.—Referred to the Board by Rescript.

(5) A Postscript Memorial by the Governor of Hunan.

The troops now forming the defensive force of Hunan were partly raised for home service and partly for service in other Provinces, whence they have returned, the result being that there are differences in their pay, drill and numbers. The Memorialist therefore proposes to reorganize them entirely, dividing the whole into Five Brigades, which will form the Front, Rear, Centre, Right, and Left Brigades of the Governor's Division. They will be completely assimilated, excepting that there will be distinctions in their uniforms to mark the different brigades. One body of men being at present in Canton cannot be re-organized till its return.—Rescript: Let the Board concerned take note.

May 2nd.—(1) A Decree noting that Tso Tsung-t'ang reports having sent a number of rifles to Ts'en Yü-ying's army in the field.

(2) The Governor of Fukien reports the death of Kuo Po-yin, formerly Governor of Hupei, and recently living in retirement at Foochow. The deceased commenced his career as a member of the Han-lin college, and served under four Emperors. Since his retirement he has been held in high esteem by the inhabitants of Foochow, where he was President of a College. On his death-bed he indited a memorial to the Emperor, which his son handed to the present Memorialist, who now begs to forward it.—Rescript already issued.

(3) A Memorial by Tso Tsung-tang. The appointment of Prefect at Sungkiang has now become vacant by the removal of the officer lately acting there. The post is both laborious and troublesome; and the Memorialist is recommended to reappoint on probation the real Prefect of the place, Po Jun, who was withdrawn before the late Acting Prefect went there, and since then has shown repentence and energy. Memorialist has accordingly given the necessary orders to the Commissioner of Finance.—Rescript: noted.

(4) The Governor of Shantung presents a Memorial stating that he has received charitable donations, to the amount of Tls. 1,000 each, from five officials, in every case the gift being made by the directions of the donor's parents, living or since deceased. A widow lady of distinguished reputation has also contributed the same sum. The Memorialist begs that Memorial Arches may be bestowed in reward for the liberality thus displayed.—Granted by Rescript.

(5) The same Memorialist reports the gift by the Magistrate of Hsin-ch'eng of 48,206 pounds of hemp to be used in the construction of embankments during the floods. The money value of the gift is estimated at Tls. 2,800. The Magistrate is an expectant Sub-prefect, and the Memorialist therefore begs that he may be given the honorary rank of Prefect, that being the reward to which he is entitled by the regulations.—Rescript: Let the Board of Revenue consider and report.

May 3rd.—(1) A Decree. At the request of Li Hung-chang, the Governor of Shantung is ordered to repair the banks of the Grand Canal in the District of Tê chow. He is to provide funds at once, appoint competent officers, and take care that the most important works are completed before the summer floods.

(2) A Decree. Tso Tsung-t'ang reports that his eyes are better, and he is fit for service again. Tso was allowed to give up his post at Nanking at his own request on account of his health. The Emperor is delighted to hear that he is better, and summons him to Peking to have audience.

(3) A Decree. In order to diminish the the volume of water in the Yellow River, it has been proposed to cut a branch channel from Ch'ang-ch'ing to the Ma-chia River, and so to the sea. Li Hung-chang reports that this undertaking would be difficult to accomplish and injurious to the surrounding country. He finds that the length of the canal would be 200 *li*, and for three fourths of the distance the land of private owners would have to be appropriated for it; moreover the people of the district are strongly opposed to it. The Emperor would not shrink from spending immense sums, if they would effect any good. But the opinions of the Governor General of Chihli and the Governor of Shantung having been forcibly given against the scheme, it need not be further considered.

(4) A Decree. Li Hung-chang reports that a case of treasure, containing three thousand taels, on its way from Wei-chow to the Provincial Treasury, was stolen from an inn in the suburbs of An-su.

The Sub-prefect of Wei-chow is to be punished for putting the money into the charge of persons who did not take care of it, and the Temporarily Acting Magistrate of An-su is likewise to be punished for not protecting it. They will also bear the loss between them. The latter alleges that the treasure was taken to an inn because the late Magistrate would not allow money *en route* to be put into his treasury. If this be the case, the late Magistrate is to bear an equal share of the loss, and is to be reported for punishment.

(5) A Memorial by the Governor of Shantung replying to certain complaints lodged at Peking against him. It was alleged that a certain grand embankment, which he is constructing in the vicinity of the Yellow River, is of no use, that the people set to work on it are made to suffer great hardships, and that the private embankments are neglected. In proof of the utility of the embankment, the Memorialist states that two embankments of a similar kind, one in Honan and one in Shantung, have lasted several hundred years, and another constructed eight years ago has proved a great success. Secondly, as regards the workmen, he cannot believe in the hardships, concerning which no complaint has been made locally. It was necessary to employ the people of the neighbourhood, as the introduction of strangers would have caused quarrels. The labour given has all been paid for instantly, and the undertaking has done duty as relief works. It was necessary that the men engaged should be under the orders of official superintendents. If they had been allowed to do as they liked, they would merely have piled up mounds of earth, which would have been of no sort of good, and would have wasted immense sums of public money. Lastly it was impossible for him to occupy himself with the private embankments at the same time as the grand one. But before commencing the latter, he gave orders to repair the private ones where it was most needful, and he would now very soon be able to

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

give his attention to them again.—Rescript: Let the Board concerned take note.

(6) Tao Taung-t'aug presents a Memorial reporting the despatch of the grain tribute from the northern Prefectures of Kiang-su by the Grand Canal. The total amount sent is piculs 103,377. The boats started in two fleets on the 22nd and 25th of March. There was great difficulty in hiring boatmen, as they were much afraid of the voyage.

(7) A Memorial by T'ang Ch'iung proposing certain alterations in the rules for working copper mines in Yunnan.

The Memorialist, having received the orders of the Emperor to take this matter in hand, as he has already reported, first sent officers to Shanghai and Canton to encourage the formation of a copper mining company. Under the old system the workers of the mines were bound to sell to the Government 80 per cent. of their out-turn, at a price varying according to locality from 6 to 8 taels per hundred catties. The remainder they could dispose of as they wished. Before the war, when labour was plentiful and food cheap, they only got about the same price for that sold privately as they did for that taken by the Government. The out-turn then was very large, being over twenty-four million catties annually, of which twenty millions went to Peking and the Provincial Governments. But after the war, labour having become extremely scarce and dear, the price for private copper rose to 18 or 19 taels, while the Government in spite of slight augmentations in its rate gave less than half this sum. The consequence was that honest men retired from the business, which was only carried on by rogues, who compensated themselves by smuggling, and the amount available for Peking became smaller every year. At the present moment there is a commercial crisis in Shanghai, and merchants are unwilling to invest their money unless they have a prospect of unusually large profits. The Memorialist is therefore afraid that it is useless to ask them to form a company for Yünnan, if they have to sell eight-tenths of their copper at a fixed low rate. He therefore proposes that the Government should only take the amount fixed by regulation, and the Company should have leave to dispose of the rest, as it likes, no matter what the proportion may be.

In encouraging the formation of a Company, the principal object is to obtain a local revenue for Yünnan, which has long depended on subsidies from other provinces, and now has the additional expense of an extraordinary army of 10,000 men. The Memorialist proposes that a customs duty of one tael and a lekin of fifty cents per hundred catties be levied on red copper, and two taels and one tael on white copper. But, as it will be impossible for Yunnan copper to make its way into other provinces, if it is taxed at every barrier it passes, Memorialist begs that the authorities in other parts of the Empire may be ordered not to levy any charges on it.—Referred by Rescript to the Board of Revenue.

(8) A Postscript Memorial by the same. According to law all copper is subject to a customs duty of ten per cent paid in kind; but this duty has been remitted for some years past. The time during which the remission was to last will expire at the end of the present year. The Memorialist begs that it may be extended over another three years, to give a more favourable chance to the merchants, who are now invited to form a company.—Rescript: Noted.

(9) A Postscript Memorial by the same Governor reports a defalcation on the part of Lin Hsi, late *tsei-yuan* in charge of copper for Peking at Po-sè.

When Lin Hsi handed over the copper in his charge to his successor, 14,300 catties were found to be missing. He excused himself for this by saying he was ill when the copper was weighed in, and he fears the bostmen must have stolen some; and he further begged for leave to go home and make arrangements for refunding the value. The Memorialist would not allow him to go, but gave him two months in which to make up the deficiency. A year has now elapsed, in which he has only restored 3,000 catties; and he has finally gone home without reporting his intended departure. As his home is in Hsiang-shan, it is requested that the Canton authorities may arrest him and send him back to Yunnan for trial.—Rescript already published.

May 4th.—(1) A Decree. Chang K'i-sung reports the suppression of a rising in Wu-ch'uan of Kwei-chow. The rebels' stronghold was burnt, several rebels killed, and their leader taken and executed. The Colonel in command of the troops engaged, Chang Lieu-ch'ih, is promoted, and posthumous honours granted to those of his men who were killed.

May 5th.—(4) Yu-k'uan presents a Memorial reporting the capture of a large gang of robbers, who committed several burglaries in the suburbs of Peking at the beginning of the present year. The robbers were fully armed and on one occasion frightened away the neighbours, who came to the rescue, by threatening to fire on them. In addition to the men who actually perpetated the robberies, are some wheelbarrow men, who were engaged to take charge of the plunder obtained. They have all been handed over to the Board of Punishments to be rigorously examined.

May 6th.—(1) Memorials and Postscripts by Shang-hsien complaining of the misgovernment of the Province of Feng-t'ien.

The Memorialist accuses the whole body of officials in the province of idleness, bribe-taking, extortion and cruelty. The very low point to which the administration has sunk, he ascribes to the ill-health of the Provincial Governor Ch'ung-ch'i, and the stupidity and greed of Sung-lin the Governor of Moukden.

On the last occasion of sending the Imperial Family Record to Moukden, the local authorities made it an excuse to extort countless sums of money from the people, with which they bribed their superiors. One Magistrate was too honest to do this, and consequently was shamefully treated by Sung-lin. In like manner when gentlemen of position in various towns reported to Sung-lin the general extortion which was being practised, he paid no attention to them. It is the custom also for the Magistrates to pay illegal fees to the Governor of Moukden, the Tao-t'ai, and the local Board of Punishments. In more than one instance the Magistrate has found himself obliged to take these fees from the public funds in his charge, and when transferred to another post, to take money from his new treasury to make up the deficiency in the old, till finally he has been detected and punished.

The Memorialist has further heard of a Taotai who extorted Tls. 4,000 from a single litigant, and of another, the East Frontier Taotai, who levied duty on every single fowl and piece of cloth, till the shopkeepers of Feng-huang were so harassed that two-thirds of them gave up business. Also, the late Magistrate of Ch'eng-tê only held two sittings of his Court in two years, though there were a hundred cases waiting to be heard; and in the appointment which he now holds, he is again doing the same thing; while his superiors take no notice whatever of his neglect of duty.

The Memorialist is afraid that the misgovernment of the country may result in a rebellion, and suggests the despatch of a High Commissioner to restore order. The Memorialist also mentions an official in the Board of Punishments, who has extorted more than ten thousand taels from prisoners and litigants, and who even took possession of another man's house, which he wished to turn into a distillery, and, on the owner's objecting, kept him in private confinement. He is also informed that the Magistrate of Ch'eng-tê does not carry out the law requiring him to put female witnesses and prisoners into the charge of women who will be responsible for them, but allows young girls and women of perfect respectability to be locked up by the common gaolers, who thus have them completely in their power.

May 7th.—(1) Memorial by Yo-chih, Superintendent of Customs at Kalgan.

The Memorialist reports that the Customs duties collected at Kalgan, for the year to March 1883, amount to Tls. 35,930 and cash, 3,151 strings, and states in detail what has been done with these sums.

(2) Postscript Memorial by Kuei-hsiang. In consequence of the distress prevailing among four banners of the Khalkha Mongols, it is impossible for them to perform the official services devolving upon them, or to pay the debts they owe to merchants and traders. As such matters as these are regulated by the Captains-General of the banners, the Memorialist requests that they may be instructed, though the Military Governor of Uliasutai, to hold a meeting and determine what remission or postponement is necessary in each case and report the conclusion they arrive at, for the decision of the Emperor.—Rescript: It is noted. Let the Memorialists communicate with the Military Governor of Uliasutai, who will carefully consider the whole question and report on it.

Official Paper.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

PROTEST AGAINST THE PRELIMINARY TREATY.

A Memorial is respectfully presented by certain Censors and other officers to Their Imperial Majesties, protesting against the Convention recently concluded between Li Hung-chang and Captain Fournier. The Memorialists are of opinion that the French are ambitious and cherish deep designs, and they therefore pray Their Majesties to order the Viceroys to make diligent preparation for war and for the defence of the coasts, so that China may not be duped by the wily schemes of France. On the 6th of the present moon, the Memorialists reverentially perused a Decree to the effect that the affairs of Annam were more pressing than ever, and commanding the officials of the seaboard provinces to prepare for the worst: further, that a telegram had been received from Li Hung-chang announcing that the French captain, Fournier, had instructed the Commissioner of Customs, Detring, to present a letter authorising him to mediate between the two Governments, so as to protect the territory and restore peace to the inhabitants; adding, that such a proposal was worthy of consideration, and that the officers of the Government should carefully think over and deliberate upon it. Now the Memorialists, glancing upward, see that Their Majesties are pondering over the situation, and making investigation into the minutest particulars; how, then, in such troublous times, can Memorialists dare to delude the minds of Their Majesties with high-flown arguments? But, on carefully reading over the Memorial of Li Hung-chang, and discovering in it a clause to the effect that his "dull mind does not fully grasp [the situation]," Memorialists make bold to point out that, to advise a State, the circumstances which prevail must be taken into consideration, and to ensure victory the strength of the foe must be carefully looked into; for unless one can distinguish truth from falsehood, one can scarcely avoid falling into the enemy's toils. The French, having taken Shan Hsi, captured Baouinh, and stormed T'ai-yuen, achieved complete success in ten days, being victorious in every engage-

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

ment; they have indeed shown themselves full of prowess. But is it reasonable for them to treat for peace after having carried Bacninh, instead of having done so before the capture of Shan Hsi? Again: Detring is only a petty French official, and Fournier nothing more than a common officer in the French navy; neither of them has proper credentials from his Government, nor has either the title of plenipotentiary. Their scheme is to take advantage of the recent defeat of the Chinese forces to propose some baseless arrangement, under cover of which to find out whether the Government is prepared to oppose them or not. If the Government yields readily, then they will increase their demands without losing a single soldier, and get all they hunger for without wanting any more provisions; while, if the Government refuses to listen to their proposals, they will begin to sue for peace. Now Memorialists hear that, though the French have been victorious in their engagements, their pecuniary resources are crippled to a far greater extent than ours; Pei Chi is but newly settled, and the people are not yet tranquillised; how then, are we to know that they are not really in fear of our increasing our troops, and that for this reason they now come to us with their proposals? Further: does Li Hung-chang think that the Treaties he makes are to be relied upon? Since China commenced her intercourse with foreign nations, and entered into Treaty relations with them, demands and threats have been made upon us every year. If we are powerful, then the Treaties may be depended upon—*q.d.*, the foreigners will not dare to break them; but if we are weak, the Treaties are a dead letter. Now although Li Hung-chang has quoted Detring as saying that all demands for an indemnity would be waived, he (Li) yet feared, at the same time, that, France being a powerful nation, there might be antagonistic factions in the Chamber of Deputies, and that some depraved and malicious members of it might oppose the Preliminary Treaty and demand of us more than we could give. From this Memorialists concluded that Li Hung-chang can give no assurance whatever that the arrangements he has made will be carried out; and till this point is settled, what use is there in speaking of any other? Li Hung-chang has also asserted that the *prestige* of China remains unimpaired, and that future troubles may be avoided. This sounds vastly well, indeed. But Annam, which has been our vassal for over two hundred years, is now handed over to another country; where, then, is the *prestige* of China? Even were we to recover Shan Hsi and Bacninh, unless we exercised extra diligence in defending them, though the frontier line were distinctly marked, we have yet no position that it would be an advantage to us to hold; how, then, does Li propose to secure the provinces of Yünnan and Kuangsi? Considering the circumstances of the time—our soldiery worn out and our resources exhausted—we ought by rights to protect our own territory and rest the people, and Their Majesties will not find it difficult to be guided by such considerations. Still, ancient history shows only too well that *never was peace made between two antagonistic countries without first going to war*; and, as a fact, no peace ever can be made without previously resorting to arms. Now although Li Hung-chang has been training our armies for more than twenty years, he yet does not consider it disgraceful to lose territory and permit the defeat of our soldiers; but, emerging from the fields, he pretends to keep an eye on events, to measure the strength (of the forces), to assume responsibilities, and to wait for opportunities, so as to screen his guilt in having blundered in the affairs of State. Memorialists deplore with pain the existence of such things, and feel themselves under an obligation to speak of them. According to the views of Memorialists, Li Hung-chang, holding as he does so much territory under his control, and armed with such high powers and responsibility, ought to command all the armies in person, and make vigorous preparations for defence. Every then, in case the French should show signs of repentance and a desire for peace, the actual truth must be got at before negotiations are commenced. No plausible, groundless propositions should be presented for Their Majesties' consideration. Memorialists would therefore pray Their Majesties to command Li Hung-chang to deliberate upon his own Memorial as to the Treaty articles, defining boundaries, opening tradal facilities and so on,—which should be assented to, and which rejected—whether the indemnity demand is really to be waived—whether the proposals of Fournier and Detring are really official, etc., etc., and report distinctly upon each head. As regards Li's remark about the *prestige* of China being unimpaired, and there being no troubles in future, Memorialists beg their Majesties to ask Li whether he is able to substantiate his assertions. Supposing the Government is really able to protect our territory and tranquillise the people without entering on a war; still, if the reverse should prove to be the case, and troubles should arise, will the Viceroy be willing to assume all responsibilities? Memorialists further most humbly beg Their Majesties to order the provincial Governors to keep up a vigilant defence of the frontiers and sea-coasts, thus giving the French on the one hand a chance for peace and showing them on the other that we are prepared for war. By this means we shall avoid haste and all unnecessary troubles when the fight begins, and also be on our guard against whatever troops the French may bring against us.—A respectful Memorial.

Meeting.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At the Meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Monday, the 23rd June, 1884, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Present:—Messrs. Chas. J. Holliday (Vice-Chairman), in the chair, A. Burman, J. M. Cory, R. Mackenzie, A. Myburgh, E. G. Vouillemont, and the Secretary.

The Minutes of last meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman, and passed for publication.

Cash Statement for week ended 21st inst. is submitted, and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Nuisance, Fearon Road.—Letter submitted from twenty-one residents in the vicinity of Fearon Road, complaining of it being at times in such a disgraceful state as to be unsafe for traffic in wet weather. They also complain of the stench from the garbage which is collected there in order to be put into boats for conveyance outside the Settlement, and of the heaps of rubbish, &c. which have been allowed to remain on the road for some months.

The Inspector of Nuisances reports that the account given by the residents of the state of the road is very much exaggerated, that some time since, when mud was being landed on it for filling-in purposes, the traffic was rather interfered with, and as the mud was not completely cleared away at once, the road was rather slippery in wet weather. The garbage collected there, he admits, is a nuisance, but though a great many attempts have been made, the Council have never been able to find any other suitable place for it.

Decided to have any mud or rubbish which may still be on the road removed at once, and to get, if possible, a piece of ground on the Hongkew Creek, outside the Settlement, where the garbage can be collected without being a nuisance to anyone.

Cattle in Native Dairies.—The following report is ordered to be published:—

RETURN OF ANIMALS KEPT AT THE NATIVE DAIRIES, Shanghai, 23rd June, 1884.

Locality of Dairy.	Remained last Return.	Buffalo cows.	Do. calves.	Cows & Heifers.	Do. calves.	Cows Exp.	Do. Native.	Do. Cattle.	Do. Buffalo.	Total.	Remarks.
Hongkew E. 180	10	9	1	2	1					13	2 Buffaloes sold, 1 English heifer bought.
Broadway No. 2	9	5	1	2	1					9	
" No. 3	6	4		1	1					6	
" No. 4	12	8	1	2	1					12	1 English heifer bought.
Lee Hongkew	15	10	1	2	1					14	
Woosung Road	16	9	1	3	1					14	
Shaza Village	15	9	1	3	1					14	1 English calf born.
" No. 2	21	12	1	3	1					17	
" No. 3	6	3		1						4	1 Native cow sold.
Tsh-koo Dairy	17	9	1	3	1					14	
Brench Road to Cemetery	22	12	1	3	1					17	1 Buff. bought, 1 Buff. calf born.
Yuen-ting	6	3		1						4	1 Native cow sold.
Sang-ize	3	2		1						3	
Pah-sien-jod (South)	16	8	1	3	1					13	Buffalo calf sold.
Near Ningpo Joss House (Lapping)	27	15	1	3	1					20	1 Native cow sold.
Rifle Range Bridge	27	15	1	3	1					20	
Overseer's Bungalow	6	3		1						4	1 Buffalo sold.
Lo-ga-li											
Hickong											
Zoe											
Peiting Road											
Pah-sien-jod											
Total	229	105	11	38	16	96	55	7	1	178	

Loss by sale 6
Gain by birth and purchase 5

Decrease 1

I inspected the cattle kept at the above named places on Monday, Wednesday and Friday of last week, and found them all in good health and condition.

JAMES A. WEBB,
Submitted, J.H. *Asst. Insp. of Markets, &c.*

Liquor Licenses—Contravention of Conditions.—Letter from Ching How submitted, applying for a new license, as he has a large stock of liquors on hand, and will lose heavily if he is not allowed to sell it by retail.

Decided to grant him a new license on the same conditions as the new one granted to Messrs. Cheap Jack & Co.

Visit of Tso Tsung-t'ang—Disorderly Soldiers.—The following letter is ordered to be published:—

Shanghai, 24th June, 1884.

SIR,—Referring to my letter of 11th March I now have the honour to inform you that I was favoured by a communication from the Doyen of the Diplomatic Body at Peking.

The regretable incidents which had taken place in the foreign Settlement at Shanghai on occasion of the visits of the former Governor-General of the two Kiangs, H.E. Tso Tsung-t'ang, to that place have caused the foreign representatives to draw the attention of the Chinese Government to these serious facts and to request them to provide measures in order to avoid a repetition of similar occurrences. The Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamen stated in reply in a note dated 21st May that strict orders had been given to the commanding officers, whenever soldiers are stationed or passing, not to allow them to commit any excesses whatsoever, but to hold them under the most rigid discipline.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
LIERSEN,
H. I. German M.'s Consul-General, and Senior Consul.

To CHAS. HOLLIDAY, Esq.,
Vice-Chairman, Shanghai Municipal Council.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Visit of Governor-General of the Two Kuangs.—The following correspondence is ordered to be published :—

Shanghai, 23rd June, 1884.

Sir,—At the instance of the Shanghai Magistrate I have the honour to inform you that His Excellency Ch'ang, Governor-General of the Two Kuangs, will arrive in Shanghai within a few days and land at the Tientsin and Kiu-li-yuen Wharves.

As His Excellency will then proceed to the Tien-how-kung, the newly erected temple near Honan Road Bridge, he will have to pass the Settlement, and therefore I beg to request you to give the necessary instructions to the police that good order is maintained in the Settlement.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Lühsen,
H. I. German M.'s Consul-General, and Senior Consul.

To Chas. Holliday, Esq.,
Vice-Chairman, Shanghai Municipal Council.

Shanghai, 26th June, 1884.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 23rd instant, intimating that His Excellency the Governor-General of the Two Kuangs will arrive in Shanghai within a few days, and will land at the Kiu-lee-yuen Wharf, whence he will proceed to the new Temple near the North Honan Road bridge.

I have now to request that you will ask the Native authorities to give timely notice of the exact day and hour when His Excellency will arrive, as the Council propose to arrange the route along which he will proceed from the wharf to the temple, and will instruct the Police to see that it is kept clear, and that no disturbances take place.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
C. J. Holliday,
Vice-Chairman.

To Dr. Lühsen,
H. I. G. M.'s Consul-General,
and Senior Consul.

Census.—A suggestion is made that as a census of the population in the Settlements was taken in 1874 and again in 1880, another should be taken this year, but after some discussion it is decided that it will be better to delay doing so till 1885.

Councillors—Resignation.—Mr. Burman tenders his resignation, as he intends leaving Shanghai by the next mail, and Mr. Vouillemont agrees to join the Watch Committee in his place.

The Meeting then adjourned.

The following statement by the Vice-Chairman is ordered to be published with the minutes of last meeting :—

The "Posang" Case—Charge against the Crew.—The Vice-Chairman states that on Friday morning last the Captain Superintendent of Police had called upon him, bringing with him the Charge Sheet connected with the proceedings at the Mixed Court on the day previous. He reported that the Chief Inspector had informed him that the British Assessor had given him instructions to release the prisoners, as in his opinion, there was not the vestige of a charge against them, but that the Magistrate had told him they were not to be released. Upon reference to the charge sheet, he (the Captain Superintendent) found nothing definite was said, and he wished to know what he was to do. The Captain Superintendent was requested to communicate with the Assessor, and obtain from him his actual instructions in writing. This was at once done, and the reply received was to the effect that the men were to be released at once.—The correspondence was duly circulated amongst the members of the Council, and as they were unanimously of opinion that under the circumstances, no other course was left to them, orders were given that the prisoners should all be released, which was accordingly done at noon on Saturday.

Amusements.

CRICKET.

"UNDER *v.* OVER FIVE YEARS IN THE EAST."

This match was played on Saturday and resulted, as far as the first innings was concerned, in an easy victory for the new comers. The older residents were in for a second innings when the stump were drawn, and the match is to be resumed on Monday at 4 o'clock. The following is the score of the first innings on each side :—

UNDER FIVE YEARS.

H. E. Fulford, b. Tomlin	19
W. C. Murrary, b. Vomlin	10
F. Anderson, c. A. Anderson, b. Tomlin	19
A. J. Leach, b. Tomlin,	3
A. J. Easton, c. Anderson, b. Tomlin	0
J. S. Ezekiel, c. Anderson, b. Ward	5
A. G. Smith, c. Anderson, b. Ward	6
W. M. Potter, not out	24
S. F. J. Easterbrooke, c. Ward, b. Reynell	3
R. Kennedy, b. Reynell	0
J. Neilson, c. Dunn, b. Wade	12
Extras	13
Total	109

Runs at the fall of each wicket :—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
24	34	42	49	56	59	75	90	90	109

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.	Wides.
H. T. Wade	60	38	0	1	1
E. Tomlin	66	31	0	5	5
W. C. Ward	30	12	0	2	1
C. H. Hutchings	20	8	1	0	2
S. Reynell	25	11	2	2	0

OVER FIVE YEARS.

E. Tomlin, b. Fulford, c. Leach	2
C. H. Hutchings, b. Fulford	21
H. T. Ward, b. Fulford	1
R. Macgregor, b. Leach	3
W. C. Ward, b. Leach	3
A. Anderson, b. Fulford	13
C. A. L. Dunn, b. Fulford	8
S. Reynell, c. Fulford, b. Leach	3
F. B. Aubert, b. Fulford	1
F. J. Macdonald, c. Fulford, b. Leach	1
H. R. Hearn, not out	1
Bye	1
Total	57

Runs at the fall of each wicket :—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3	10	15	29	39	47	54	54	55	57

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.	Wides.
H. E. Fulford	60	30	0	6	5
A. J. Leach	60	26	1	5	0

NO. 4 CO., S.V.C., MONTHLY COMPETITION.

The monthly challenge cup of this company was shot for on Saturday morning under favourable circumstances. There were six competitors. Sergeant Vieira made the highest score, of 54 points, but as he was handicapped 2 points, Private Carion won the cup for the second time. Sergeant Vieira made 32 points out of a possible 35 at the 500 range. The following is the score :—

	200 yards.	Total.	500 yards.	Total.	Grand Total.
Sergt. Vieira	4343224	22	5555255	32	54
Priv. Carion	4242244	24	5345552	29	53
Corp. Pereira	5233454	26	3255243	24	50
Priv. Delgado	3354541	25	3r23352	20	45
" Gutteres	5433455	29	r1213231	18	47
Sergt. Pereira	2322332	17	4052243	20	37

Correspondence.

THE COINAGE QUESTION.

To the Editor of the
North-China Daily News.

Sir,—In your article of the 17th inst. on Mr. Childers' proposal to make the half-sovereign a token you rightly describe some of Lord Randolph Churchill's objections as silly and fanciful; but I think one very grave objection to the proposal has escaped your notice. We continually see coiners brought up and punished for producing and putting into circulation false shillings, half crowns, etc., but with all penalties attached to coining false money the profits appear to be so large that numbers of men are content to run the risk. What will it be when a profit of 11 per cent. can be made by coining half sovereigns and making them of pure metal? The risk will be almost nil, as detection will be impossible. The actual cost of making the coin, would probably not exceed 1d. if any quantity were coined. It is almost certain that, if the proposal be adopted, and say 20,000,000 tokens are struck as being sufficient for requirements, in a few years the country would be flooded with half-sovereigns; every coiner in Europe and America would set to work to make them. The inevitable result would follow; twice as many half sovereign tokens as are needed would be forced into circulation, and their value must decline,—there is no help for it. The country would then be compelled to withdraw the tokens whether coined at the mint or the result of private enterprise, and the cost of this operation would be enormous. Supposing 20 millions to be sufficient for all wants, it would take but a short time to put another 20 millions into circulation, and the cost of withdrawing 40 millions would be £2,000,000 to begin with, in loss of weight simply, besides the cost of replacing them. This objection ought in my opinion to suffice to upset the scheme.

Coiner.

26th June.

*** It does not appear probable that coiners of false half-sovereigns will be able to flood the country with spurious tokens. In fact the more the State debases the coin the less profit will be derived from coining false half sovereigns, or any other tokens, as a diminution of the quantity of standard gold in them and an increase of the alloy diminishes the profit to be derived from imitating the national coin. The more of a cheap metal that can be substituted for gold the larger the gains of the coiners, and the more alloy the State puts into its token money the less will be the profit of the forger or coiner. Coining of spurious money may therefore be expected to become a less profitable profession if Mr. Childers's proposals pass the House of Commons. But the best protection of the public has long been found in the excellence of the design and execution of the English coinage, and it has rarely happened that spurious gold or silver coins have passed into currency to any great extent. We may notice what appears to be a slip of the pen on the part of our Correspondent, when he asks what would be the effect of coining half sovereigns of pure metal. Obviously the effect would be to make the operation a losing one.—Ed.

To the Editor of the
North-China Daily News.

Sir,—The views expressed by your correspondent "Coiner" seem to me sound, notwithstanding your editorial remarks, if we may understand him to mean, when he speaks of "pure metal," metal of the same degree of purity as that used in the Government coinage. It is evident that ten sovereigns might be melted down and recoined into 22 (and a fraction) half sovereigns, worth intrinsically exactly the same as the Government half sovereign, whereas only 20 of the Government coins could be got in exchange for the same 10 sovereigns. Thus "Coiner," if he could successfully imitate the Government stamp, need fear no detection from difference in quality of metal, for there would be no difference. His profit would be one pound in ten, less the cost of coinage which would decrease in proportion to the number of coins made, and might almost be covered by the fraction mentioned above. The result to be looked for would be the gradual disappearance of sovereigns, and the flooding of the country with half sovereigns, until the latter coin became almost the only currency. Then although it might still be received as ten shillings, they would be shillings of a less purchasing value than the present shilling, for prices would rise in proportion to the depreciation in the intrinsic value of the coin. The greatest sufferers would be those who draw fixed salaries or wages. The

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

American silver dollar is bad enough, but a debased half-sovereign would be infinitely worse.

Yours respectfully,

M.

Shanghai, 30th June.

There is no fear that the new "token" half sovereign will drive the sovereign out of circulation, as Mr. Childers's proposals make the half sovereign a legal tender only to the extent of five pounds. Florins and all silver coin are debased, that is they contain much less silver than they represent; but does "M" consider that their purchasing value is thereby affected? Why, then, should it be expected that the purchasing value of the new half-sovereign would be less than its full value?—ED.

THE BONIN ISLANDS.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—With reference to the last paragraph of the article by "A Recent Traveller" in your yesterday's issue, it may not be out of place to mention that there are no aborigines on those Islands. When the first white and Honolulu settlers went there some forty or fifty years ago, they found the Islands quite uninhabited, and no vestiges of any former population existed; hence it is easy to account for there being no temples or idols.

What your "Recent Traveller" says about the timber is perfectly correct, as both the North and South Islands abound in magnificent wood. Here grow in abundance the magnificent ho and she tamaun, the ho tamaun being identical with the celebrated jamaica of Mexico, a wood superior to mahogany for furniture purposes, and taking as fine a polish, with a handsomer grain. With steam launches the wood in the North Island could easily be brought round to Port Lloyd, where there is a good harbour; but no harbour exists on the Southern Island, where the growth of magnificent woods is marvellous. This difficulty could, however, I suppose, be overcome by shipping in calm weather as opportunities occurred, the steamer running for shelter to Port Lloyd should a gale come on. The timber in both Islands grows close down to high-water mark. These Islands are gems of the sea, lying about 600 miles south of Yokohama and about 1,000 miles east of Shanghai; it is difficult to understand why they have been so neglected for centuries. The soil is most luxuriant; no noxious animals, reptiles or insects exist, and the islands abound in wild deer, goats and pigs. Vegetation of almost all known latitudes would thrive there, and it is eternal summer without great heat. If ever places could be made a paradise on earth, the Bonin Islands should take first rank. The only drawback that I ever heard of, when there, is the disastrous typhoons which visit the Islands on the average once a year. Indications of these coming on, however, are now well understood.

The "Recent Traveller" mentions turtle as abounding there; this is perfectly correct also. An average of twenty or thirty a day can be easily obtained from the small accessible sandy bays all along the harbour of Port Lloyd and adjacent coast. In addition to this, whales are constantly disporting themselves round the Islands, and a whaling station established there, with two or three good boat's crews, could get as much whale and turtle-oil and turtle beef as they could prepare and pack for market.

The wealth of timber there of fine kinds, even to noble forest trees, is practically inexhaustible. Why these Islands, within such easy distance of busy commercial centres, have never had their wealth tapped has always been a matter of wonder to me. The timber alone would repay tenfold any outlay for obtaining it, to say nothing of the ground that would be thus made available for grazing and agricultural purposes, where almost *anything* would grow, the soil being particularly rich and the climate most genial—and the wealth in the whale and turtle oil that may be had for the catching.

Yours faithfully,

ANOTHER TRAVELLER.

Shanghai, 27th June.

PROPOSED TAX ON OPIUM LANDS.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—In reference to the above subject, in your leader of the 14th inst., you quote a Memorialist as saying that "the prohibition of poppy cultivation is leading to a steady diminution of local production of opium." On this you remark that it is "contrary to all the evidence we have received from other sources."

Permit me to suggest whether it is not also contrary to the sense intended by the the author of the Memorial.

So different was the impression derived by me from the reading of the original, that, on seeing this startling assertion, I looked up the *Peking Gazette* of the 23rd ult. to see whether I had not been mistaken in my understanding of the passage.

The clause quoted when taken alone is capable of the rendering given in your leader, but interpreted by its position it must be taken as hypothetical. Without discussing the intricacies of Chinese grammar permit me to offer you a translation of the paragraph. "We find," says the Memorialist, "that opium has long been an article of consumption, and its use has become so extended that it is like a torrent that cannot be turned back. *Prohibit the planting of poppies and the native production may daily diminish*, but I fear that the foreign importation would daily increase." In his view the vice has attained proportions that defy all attempts at suppression; and the only thing that remains is to turn it to the account of the revenue.

Yours truly,

W. A. P. M.

Peking, 23rd June.

Law Reports.

IN H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT FOR CHINA AND JAPAN.

Shanghai, 28th June, 1884.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq., *Assistant Judge*.

JAMES ALEXANDER TAYLOR
v.
F. H. BELL and others and
THE NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

This was a case in which the plaintiff sought for an injunction to restrain the defendants from cancelling or declaring forfeited five shares which he held in the (old) North-China Insurance Company, and for an order that the defendant Company should allot to him twenty-five shares in the new Limited Company.

Mr. WILKINSON and Mr. WAINEWRIGHT appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. DRUMMOND and Mr. LATHAM for the defence.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT summed up for the defence. He first referred to the argument of the defendants that this action was an attempted interference with the internal management of the Company, and quoted from Buckley, citing cases to prove that the defendant's action came properly within the purview of the Court. It was not, he urged, a matter of internal management at all; it was an attempt to turn out a shareholder. The main questions in the suit were whether the directors had a right to revise the share-list in 1883 and withdraw shares, and whether, if they had that right, they exercised it properly. The plaintiff contended that they had no right to revise the list and withdraw shares in 1883, firstly because there was an agreement, implied if not expressed, that they would not do so, and secondly because the facts and circumstances of the case rendered the powers no longer exercisable. In mentioning an agreement he referred, of course, to the prospectus of the 14th February, in which it was stated that the holder of one share in the old company would be entitled to five new shares, and to the agreement between the two Companies. According to that prospectus the closing of the old company might have been contemplated before the end of 1883, i.e., before the time for revision arrived, and he submitted that the plaintiff was entitled to read the prospectus as a promise to give him new shares. The plaintiff had deposed that he went to the meeting and voted for the resolutions changing the Company on the strength of that statement in the prospectus; and the construction which the defendants sought to put upon it, viz., that it simply meant that the shares were to be subdivided into five, was a forced construction. It had been said that the plaintiff ought to have had in his mind the revision clauses of the Deed of Settlement. Perhaps he had; but he also had in his mind the fact that there had been no revision in 1880. A great deal had been said by Mr. Drummond about the plaintiff being put on his guard by the fact of this being a mutual company; but the prospectus showed, if it showed anything, that the principle of mutuality was to be departed from to some extent; because in the old Company the contributors got the lion's share of the profits, while according to the prospectus the dividend to shareholders was made the first charge upon the profits. Then they were told that the terms of the resolutions at the meeting of the 29th March ought to have put him on his guard; but there was nothing in the first and second resolutions which in any way pointed to a revision, and as to the third resolution it was mere surplusage. It provided for the terms and provisions of the Deed of Settlement remaining in force till the transfer was effected; but he submitted that even if no such resolution had been passed these provisions would have remained in force, except in so far as their effect might be modified by the fact of the Company being in a moribund condition. He contended that the revision clauses were rendered inoperative by the fact that the Company was no longer a going concern; and if this were so the third resolution passed at the meeting in March would not alter the fact; it was, in fact, pure surplusage. His argument was that the circular and prospectus of February contained a promise that the plaintiff, in common with the other shareholders, should have certain advantages in connection with the winding up of the Company; and on the strength of these promises they agreed to wind up the Company. The plaintiff was accused of having wilfully abstained from making enquiries as to whether there would be a revision; but he contended that the plaintiff was entitled to draw from the prospectus of February the inference that there would be no revision; and that there had been no evidence whatever of wilful blindness on the plaintiff's part. Then with regard to the prospectus of May, by which it was first brought to the notice of the plaintiff that there would be a revision, what could the plaintiff do on receiving that? He could do nothing but stand upon his rights. If he had rushed forward and tried to get a meeting to reverse the action of the directors he would have put himself in an absurd position. He had no reason to assume that the directors were going to revise him out. He was not going to accuse himself by calling out, "You must not revise me out," when his whole position was that they could not revise him out. Therefore his silence did not affect the question one way or the other.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

The same remarks applied to the advertisement of the 26th June, stating that the transfer books would be closed for the purpose of the revision. Then it was contended that the plaintiff, by the way in which he applied for shares, had accepted the terms of the prospectus of the 25th May, because, while striking out the words, "Or any smaller number," he had said, "I hereby agree to accept 25 shares on the terms of the prospectus of the 25th May." But that could not possibly mean that he accepted the shares on the terms that his old shares were to be revised out and he was not to get the shares at all. He accepted the terms of the prospectus as far as they affected the new shares which he claimed; but that fact did not in any way affect the contract between the plaintiff and the defendants that he was not to be revised out. The prospectus of May contained a notice that there was to be a revision; but the plaintiff had nothing to do with the issue of that prospectus and it did not bind the plaintiff in any way. Then with regard to the notice of withdrawal, and the plaintiff's acquiescence in it, the plaintiff had certain rights, and the directors gave him notice that they were not going to recognise those rights; but the issue of that notice did not give them the power to do an unlawful act, and the fact of the plaintiff not taking any steps did not prove acquiescence. Because a man says he is going to do an unlawful act it does not follow that he will do it, and in a case of this sort one has to give him the benefit of the doubt. The plaintiff could not get an injunction to prevent the directors from revising him out; in fact he could do nothing until they actually revised him out. The next point was that the power of revision was no longer exercisable, in view of the Company being no longer a going concern. The power of revision, according to the Deed of Settlement, could only be exercised for the benefit of "the" Company—that is, the Company holding under that Deed of Settlement; and the Company was passing into a position from which it was impossible that any benefit could be derived from the exercise of the powers of revision, and therefore those powers could not legally be exercised. Mr. Wainewright proceeded to cite cases to show that such acts as that of revising the share-list in this case could not be taken by a moribund Company. He said it was admitted that the old and new Companies were legally distinct companies, and therefore to say that the action of the old Company was for the benefit of the new Company would not make that action legal.

His Lordship—Supposing your contention is correct, and there are a large number of unprofitable shareholders, how can you get a new Company?

Mr. Wainewright—Perhaps you cannot.

His Lordship—Not unless by taking over the whole body of unprofitable shareholders?

Mr. Wainewright—Yes; but the articles of association of the new Company may make what provisions they like about revision.

His Lordship—Then the shareholders might complain of that.

Mr. Wainewright—Yes, but that is not a point we are arguing. I say that they are two distinct companies, and we have nothing to do with the effect of a revision upon the new Company.—Continuing, he said the purpose for which revision was to be held could not, under the circumstances, be carried out. It was expressly stated that the Directors were to make a revision and to reallot the shares withdrawn, either amongst existing shareholders or amongst new applicants. Here there could be no reallotment, because the Company ceased to exist on the day when the shares were withdrawn. Then, by Clause 7 of the Agreement between the two Companies, the directors were to ascertain before the 31st December, 1883, or as soon after as practicable, who among their shareholders were willing to take shares in the new Company in exchange for their shares in the old Company, and were to nominate such shareholders as they had ascertained to want new shares. There could be no words more adapted to conceal the intention of holding a revision; indeed the whole agreement, so far as language could make anything plain, appeared to show exactly the opposite intention, because by that agreement when a shareholder in the old company signified that he wanted new shares the directors were bound to give them to him. Those were the two points on which he relied when he said that the directors had no right to make a revision—the contract with the shareholders and the fact that the Company was ceasing to exist. Mr. Wainewright then dealt with the question whether, in the Deed of Settlement, the word "revision" meant a withdrawal of shares or a mere examination of the share-list with a view to a possible withdrawal. He submitted that in most instances it meant an actual change in the share-list.

His Lordship said there seemed to be a little confusion as to the meaning of the word.

Mr. Wainewright admitted that there was a certain amount of confusion. He then dealt with the manner in which the revision had been made. With regard to the plaintiff not having had an opportunity of being heard, he said Mr. Wilkinson had dealt with this so fully in his opening that it was not necessary for him (Mr. Wainewright) to say much; but with respect to Mr. Drummond's contention that it was only in cases in which a person's conduct was concerned that a quasi-judicial tribunal was bound to give him an opportunity of being heard, he submitted that in this case it was really a question of conduct. The question the directors had to consider was whether the plaintiff's conduct in contributing or not contributing business required his removal from the Company.

His Lordship thought if the term were used in that wide sense every question would be a question of conduct.

Mr. Wainewright thought practically every case was a case of conduct unless it turned on the payment of a specific sum of money. He cited cases to prove that both judicial and quasi-judicial tribunals were bound before depriving a man of his property to give him an opportunity of being heard. In one of these, reference was made to the fact that God himself did not condemn Adam without giving him an opportunity of being heard.

His Lordship—That would be a judicial case, I suppose.

Mr. Wainewright said the next point was that the revision was not properly made, inasmuch as if there was a revision in 1880 the Court did not in 1883 ascertain what amount of business had been contributed or influenced since the last revision, and consequently they did not form an opinion as to whether a fair amount of business had been contributed in each case; and if there was no revision in 1880, then they did not ascertain how much each shareholder had contributed since the commencement of the Company.

His Lordship here asked Mr. Wainewright how much longer he was likely to be, as his Lordship intended to go right on without adjourning until Mr. Wainewright had finished.

Mr. Wainewright said in that case it was probable that he would be finished before his arguments were. (Laughter.) He contended that there was no revision in 1880, as no alteration was made in the share-list, although it was admitted that there were then unprofitable shareholders in the Company. He contended that all forfeiture clauses had to be treated *strictissimi juris*, and any deviation from the letter of the law was fatal to those who relied on them. The fact that if there was a revision in 1880 the whole period since the last revision had not been considered in making the revision of 1883 was not a mere technical defect; it was a substantial injustice to leave out of consideration a period which might exercise an important influence on the position of the shareholder being dealt with. Then another point upon which he contended that the revision was irregular was that the notice sent to the plaintiff was not in accordance with the Deed of Settlement. Instead of giving notice that they had decided to withdraw, the directors should have given notice that they intended to withdraw.

His Lordship suggested that they might have given notice that they "intended to decide to withdraw."

Mr. Wainewright said another point was that the directors had not considered the business "influenced" but only the business "contributed." The Secretary had put a highly technical meaning on the word "influenced," which was not shared in or supported by anybody else, and Mr. Bell had admitted having treated it as synonymous with "contributed;" but Mr. Wainewright contended that the meaning to be attached to the word was its ordinary meaning. He took it that if a man touted for business successfully he influenced business; or if a bill and bullion broker, in the course of his rounds, got people to take their business to the Company he influenced business.

His Lordship—If he carried a poster round in his trap, "Take your business to the North-China Insurance Company?"

Mr. Wainewright—If he proved that he had induced people to give business to the Company by that means, yes.—Continuing, he said the main question was whether the revision was conducted fairly—whether shareholders were all treated on the same principles, and whether the plaintiff was treated like other shareholders. He believed there had been an admission that the plaintiff had not been treated on exactly the same principles as other shareholders; he understood the defendant's position to be that, if they acted *bonâ fide* towards the plaintiff, whether they treated other shareholders in the same way or not was no concern of his. He was not going in detail though all the cases of shareholders that had been selected; they were before his Lordship and they spoke for themselves to a great extent. The plaintiff had been rather jeered at because he had not established all the cases which he had selected—for having selected some instances which were capable of explanation; in fact Mr. Drummond even went so far as to state that every case had collapsed and was a lamentable failure; but out of the 59 cases the Secretary gave explanations of thirteen and no more. The plaintiff had of course no other knowledge than that which the list of contributions afforded him. He was informed that that was what the directors had to rely upon; but it appeared that the directors knew so much in addition that it was unnecessary for them to go outside their own board-room. The plaintiff was not gifted with this omniscience, and therefore he had selected some cases which, when they were explained, might have been struck out of his list; but it was admitted that at least twenty-seven out of the fifty-nine had not contributed a fair proportion of business. With regard to a "fair proportion" he did not quarrel with the definition which the defendants gave of that, but they had not always stuck to their own principles and followed out the spirit of their constitution. In once case it was shown that a shareholder did contribute a considerable amount of business—more than a fair proportion,—but his shares were withdrawn because he had become a broker. This was a case in which the directors were clearly not entitled to rule him out, because their discretion only arose in the event of their deciding that he had not contributed a fair proportion. In that case, therefore, they had broken the provisions of their

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Deed of Settlement, and when they did that in one case the inference was that that case did not stand alone. With regard to the Chairman, it was admitted that he had not contributed a fair proportion of business, but explanations had been given, and he (Mr. Wainewright) would not remark upon them further than to say that the Chairman's rights as a shareholder were not greater than those of any other shareholder. It was rather a remarkable thing, however, that they had not had the benefit of the Chairman's evidence. The Chairman knew everything; he was in fact a reserve secretary as well as chairman, but still the defendants had not thought it well to get him to give his able explanation of the working of the Company and the meaning of its constitution. The only remaining question—though there were a number of other small points with which he did not think it necessary to deal with—was the question whether the plaintiff had precluded himself from taking action by acquiescence or delay. Mr. Wainewright cited cases against this view.

His LORDSHIP thought that was not a very strong point in the defendant's case.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—Well, my Lord, that is all I have got to say, except that my learned friend has furnished an explanation of the plaintiff's conduct. He says the plaintiff would never have brought this suit if he had not missed his market. How he knows that I do not know. I think it is quite natural that a man who has been deprived of his property should take action.

His LORDSHIP:—If that was so it does not disentitle him.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT.—I think it is quite natural that he should take action, and I do not see any ground for charging him with impropriety or animus.

Mr. LATHAM.—There is no impropriety or animus in missing his market; we do not pretend that there is.

His LORDSHIP asked if Mr. Wainewright had anything to say about the directors looking to the future in considering whether they would withdraw shares.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—I am not prepared to say that when they have decided that a man comes within their powers they have not a right to look to the future in using their discretion; but it is a strong point in favour of hearing a man. The directors cannot know much about a man's future except from the man himself. The plaintiff might be in a position at any moment to resume contributing business.

His LORDSHIP—The case is one that is full of difficulty, and I shall take some time to consider my judgment. It has been very ably argued on both side, and I am indebted to the Counsel for putting their views before me with all possible clearness.

The Court then adjourned.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, 27th June, 1884.

Before His Worship HUANG, *Acting Magistrate*, and H. A. GILES, Esq., *British Assessor*.

THE CHARGE OF LOOTING THE "POSANG"—DISAGREEMENT ON THE BENCH.

Fifteen of the crew of the *Posang*, seven sailors and eight firemen, were charged on remand with stealing a quantity of baggage belonging to passengers on board at the time of the wreck of the steamer. The compradore of the *Posang* also appeared on remand charged by a military mandarin with being responsible for the loss of a box containing Tls. 1,000, part of Tls. 3,000 Imperial revenue which the mandarin was conveying to Peking. It will be remembered that at the last hearing of the case Mr. Giles urged that the men ought to be released as there was no evidence against them; but his Worship refused then to take the responsibility of releasing them and they were remanded in the custody of the Municipal police. Captain Drage, Marine-Superintendent of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, appeared on behalf of the owners of the *Posang*, and Chief Inspector Cameron was present for the police authorities.

A Chinese soldier who was in attendance on the military mandarin was the first witness called. While he was giving his evidence the military officer stood behind the screen of reeds which hangs at the back of the Bench and prompted the witness in loud tones, until Inspector Cameron called Mr. Gile's attention to the fact, and the mandarin was ordered away. The witness said that after the passengers had left the wreck he got orders from his master to go back to the steamer to secure his property, and when he went on board the compradore would not allow him to take his master's baggage away; he stated that he was the servant of a high official, but the compradore said he did not care—his orders were to prevent anyone taking anything away. The witness then pointed out several of the prisoners whom he had seen looting.

Mr. Giles asked the Acting Magistrate to have the evidence of the soldier written down, or interpreted to Captain Drage as representative of the steamer company, so that the soldier could be cross-examined question by question; but Mr. Huang said he would do nothing of the kind. Mr. Giles also informed Capt. Drage that Mr. Huang said "it is not a question of evidence now, it is only a question of identifying the men;" Mr. Giles added, "by which he means, I suppose, that the case is settled."

Captain DRAGE said he had no interpreter present as he did not know that evidence was to be called; had he known that, he would have had witnesses in attendance.

The Compradore was then questioned. He contradicted the evidence of the previous witness as to the time when, according to his statement, [redacted] (the compradore) left the ship, and also as to when the passengers left.

Mr. ROBERTS, Second Engineer of the *Posang*, whose evidence was interpreted to his Worship by the Court interpreter, stated that when the ship struck, the passengers were landed, and the compradore and all the men they could spare. Only two or three men were left on board the ship, as they were afraid she would sink. After the ship come off she did not make much water at first, and witness got orders to go on shore, together with the second mate, and bring some men off. He went on shore and saw the compradore and his men there. He asked the compradore to come back, but the compradore said he would not come. When he got back to the ship, the captain said it was no use, the ship was going down. The prisoners never came on board again. The men were put in the boats shortly after the ship struck, but it was too dark to [redacted] on shore then, and the boats remained alongside the ship [redacted] daylight; that was on the morning of the 26th May.

Interpreter—The compradore went with the passengers?

Mr. ROBERTS—Yes.

Mr. GILES, after speaking to his Worship, said, addressing Capt. Drage and Inspector Cameron—I asked him to call the military official, as I have some questions I should like to ask him; but he does not see his way to do that.

After some further conversation, however, the mandarin was induced to come forward, though without his official hat. He began his evidence by expectorating in front of the bench. Mr. Giles questioned the witness at some length, amid considerable interference from the magistrate, who, when Mr. Giles caught the witness in a contradiction, remarked, "you are only fooling him; you are not asking him important questions." Mr. Giles remarked, "He says by the rules of the Court I am only allowed to ask him certain questions; I say I must put the questions which suggest themselves to my mind." The witness stated that he took his passage at Hongkong and took Tls. 3,000 with him. He admitted that he did not insure it, and that he allowed it to be placed with the ordinary luggage of passengers, and Mr. Giles told him that it was his own fault that he had lost part of it. The witness then stated that none of the officers and none of the crew went in the boats with the passengers; but when he was asked who rowed them ashore he was unable to reply, and had as usual, [redacted] seek the assistance of the magistrate, who complained that Mr. Giles was trying to fool the witness. After examing the witness for some time Mr. Giles remarked, "He says he does not understand me. It is very strange that he understands me perfectly well until I bring him to the point, and then he says he does not understand me. I asked him why he did not tell the Captain about his treasure, and he says he did, but the Captain did not understand him. I asked him why he did not take the Compradore to explain, and he says the Compradore would not pay any attention to him. He cannot give any satisfactory explanation of why he did not tell the Captain about the box."

A Chinese passenger was also called, and gave his evidence partly in pidgin-English and partly in Chinese. His evidence in pidgin-English consisted chiefly of an excited complaint that when on the rocks he asked Capt. Irvine when a ship was coming to take them off, and the Captain said he not know. His evidence, however, contradicted that of Capt. Irvine in some particulars, and when Mr. Giles reminded Huang of Capt. Irvine's evidence, his Worship expressed the opinion that this witness was quite as worthy of belief as the Captain. Mr. Giles, however, pointed out that this witness had lost things, while Capt. Irvine was personally disinterested.

A Chinese letter signed by thirty-six passengers, and translation, were handed in by Captain Drage. The letter stated that the passengers did not land till between seven and eight o'clock; and the passengers praised the compradore for his conduct throughout.

After some conversation with the magistrate,

Mr. GILES said to Inspector Cameron—The Magistrate wants to send all the prisoners in to the City Magistrate, but I will not consent. I told him he ought to dismiss them, but he does not think he will venture to take the responsibity. He says if I release them on my own responsibity he will bring an action against me, but I will risk it. He can bring an action against me if he likes. Have you got enough men here to take them away safely?

Chief Inspector CAMERON said he thought there was no fear of any trouble.

Mr. GILES—If it comes to violence, we can use violence too. I release the men, so far as I am concerned.

Chief Inspector CAMERON asked if he should take the men back to the Police Station.

Mr. GILES—You can take them anywhere you like on your own responsibility.

Chief Inspector CAMERON—If we take them outside and let them go, the Court runners may seize some of them again.

Mr. GILES—Take them back to the station first, and then take them round to the Consulate to get their wages.

After further conversation in Chinese,

Mr. GILES said—He says I had better hand them over to you, and that I should get superior authority before they are released. I said I hand them over to you and can get the superior authority afterwards. You take the men away. (To Capt. Drage)—You will see that they are taken to the Consulate, and pay them their wages.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

The Court Interpreter (to Mr. Cameron) —You are not to release them until you get higher authority.

Mr. Giles—So far as I am concerned, they are released, but the Magistrate does not release them. He says now that I suggested the appeal to a higher authority; I did not. He said himself that he would appeal to a higher authority. He can appeal if he likes. I said I don't want any appeal to any higher authority.

The prisoners were then taken away by the police. No attempt was made by either the runners on the magistrate to prevent their going.

Mr. Giles then proceeded to write a note on the charge-sheet showing how the case had been disposed of. He told the Magistrate he was to note that the men were released on his own responsibility because there was not the slightest evidence against them.

Mr. Hwang objected to this.

Mr. Giles, after further conversation, said—He suggests that it will not look well for us not to agree, so he will agree to the decision. He says he handed the prisoners to you, Mr. Cameron, but he says you do not understand Chinese.—Afterward Mr. Giles said the magistrate refused to concur in the release of the men.

Mr. Giles then wrote on the charge sheet:—"No trustworthy evidence adduced in support of the charge against any of the accused. Assessor insisted on immediate release of prisoners. The magistrate dissented."

Miscellaneous.

FRANCE AND CAMBODIA.

The following telegraphic despatch from the Governor of Saigon to General Boüet, who is acting as Governor during His Excellency's absence, was published on the 19th June at Saigon:—

In consequence of the offensive attitude assumed towards myself by the King of Cambodia in the negotiations on the subject of customs, I have this morning obtained a formal apology, and, as reparation, the signature of a convention, confirming and supplementing the treaty of the 11th August, 1863. By this convention the King in the first article accepts such treaties and judicial, financial, and commercial reforms as the Government of the Republic may hereafter think advisable in order to render effective its protectorate.

Principal Articles—The appointment by the French Government of Residents and Sub-Residents charged with the maintenance of public order and the control of the local authorities, and placed under the orders of a Resident-General, charged to assure, under the high authority of the Governor of Cochin-China, the regular exercise of the protectorate. Cambodian functionaries will continue to administer the provinces, except as regards the establishment and collection of imposts, customs, and indirect taxes, public works, and, in general, services requiring unique direction or the employment of European engineers or agents. All the expenses of the administration of the kingdom and of the protectorate will be at the cost of Cambodia. After the definitive establishment of the budget of the kingdom, arrangement will be made to fix the civil list of the King, and the allowances of the Princes of the Royal Family. The civil list is provisionally fixed at $300,000, and the allowances to be divided amongst princes at $25,000.

Slavery to be abolished throughout Cambodian territory. Government lands hitherto held as the exclusive property of the Crown shall cease to be inalienable. The French and Cambodian Authorities will proceed to frame a property law for Cambodia. A Municipality to be established at Phnom-penh with a Municipal Commission to be composed of the Resident-General or his delegate, the Resident, six French functionaries or merchants appointed by the Governor of Cochin-China, three Cambodians, one Annamite, two Chinese, one Indian, and one Malay to be appointed by the King from a list to be approved by the Governor. The Convention will be subject to the ratification of the Government of the Republic.

Perfect order prevails at Phnom-penh and in the neighbourhood. The rumours of troubles in the interior are entirely false.—*Daily Press.*

The Governor of Cochin-China has issued the following proclamation to the people of Cambodia:—

"By a convention signed at Phnom-penh on the 17th June, 1884, His Majesty Norodom, King of Cambodia, and M. Charles Thomson, Governor of Cochin-China, acting in the name of the Government of the French Republic, have agreed to realise the reforms rendered necessary in the interest of the Cambodian people. The new arrangement confirms and completes the fundamental treaty concluded on the 11th August, 1863, between France and Cambodia, and respects the ancient laws and customs of the Kingdom so far as these are compatible with the eternal principles of right and of human progress, which alone make nations great, happy, and free. In consequence of this arrangement and the good understanding which exists between the two Governments measures will be taken by which, in the near future, slavery will be completely wiped out in Cambodia and by which all Cambodians will henceforth be able to enjoy their freedom.

"The land, which up to the present has belonged entirely to the Crown, will be divided between the communes and individuals and will be given or made over to them with full proprietary rights. The Christians and the temples will retain the lands actually occupied by them.

"French officials will be sent into the provinces to see, in concert with the Cambodian authorities, that justice is everywhere rendered in an equitable manner, and that the yield of the imposts, everywhere properly collected, is employed in works of public utility, the construction of roads, canals, bridges, docks and telegraphic lines, serving to facilitate communication throughout the whole extent of the Kingdom. A municipality will be charged with the administration of the town of Phnom-penh.

"Trade and industry will become more prosperous, order and tranquility will be guaranteed, private property constituted, and the well-being of all Cambodians will increase day by day. Such will be the results of the new convention by which His Majesty Norodom I. has strengthened the bonds of friendship which have long united Cambodia and France. The Government of the French Republic, the protector of Cambodia, will always aim at the assurance, by wise dispositions, of the liberty of all and the happiness of the Cambodian people.

"His Majesty the King of Cambodia and the Governor of Cochin-China rely on the zeal and devotion of the Cambodian officials to make known to the population the intentions of the Governments and to assist them in this work of peace, justice, and civilisation.

"Given at Phnom-penh, 18th June, 1884.

"CHARLES THOMSON,
"Governor of Cochin-China."

The *Saigonnais* learns by telegram from Phnom-penh that the Cambodians are delighted with the new treaty and that the Mandarins have called on the Governor and avowed their devotion to France.

The following telegrams have been addressed to the Governor at Phnom-penh by the elective bodies of the colony of Saigon:—

"We beg to convey to you our warm congratulations on the new convention with Cambodia. The development of our influence in that country will assure its prosperity and make it one of the brightest gems of French Indo-China.

"The French Colonial Councillors at present in Saigon."

"We convey to the Governor our hearty congratulations on the results obtained in Cambodia, which will assure the development of our trade and industry in this part of French Indo-China.

"The Saigon Chamber of Commerce."

"19th June, 1884.

"Monsieur the Governor,

"The Mayor and Municipal Council of Saigon beg to tender you their deep tribute of their congratulations on the happy result of your negotiations with Cambodia. It is a great step in advance for civilisation and the prosperity of the country, and of which Saigon and our fine colony will not be long in feeling the effects. It gives them great happiness to value this new success of your patient, wise, and liberal colonial policy, which looks unceasingly to the prosperity of the country, which has been confided to your government, and they pray you to have the goodness to accept the expression of their entire and respectful devotion.

Signed by the Mayor, Councillors and officials."

AN ALARMING DISEASE AFFLICTING A NUMEROUS CLASS.

The disease commences with a slight derangement of the stomach, but, if neglected, it in time involves the whole frame, embracing the kidneys, liver, pancreas, and in fact, the entire glandular system, and the afflicted drags out a miserable existence until death gives relief from suffering. The disease is often mistaken for other complaints, but if the reader will ask himself the following questions, he will be able to determine whether he himself is one of the afflicted:—Have I distress, pain, or difficulty in breathing after eating? Is there a dull, heavy feeling attended by drowsiness? Have the eyes a yellow tinge? Does a thick, sticky, mucous gather about the gums and teeth in the mornings, accompanied by a disagreeable taste? Is the tongue coated? Is there pains in the side and back? Is there a fulness about the right side as of the liver were enlarging? Is there costiveness? Is there vertigo or dizziness when rising suddenly from a horizontal position? Are the secretions from the kidneys scanty and highly colored, with a deposit after standing? Does food ferment soon after eating, accompanied by flatulence or a belching of gas from the stomach? Is there frequent palpitation of the heart? These various symptoms may not be present at one time, but they torment the sufferer in turn as the dreadful disease progresses. If the case be one of long standing, there will be a dry, hacking cough, attended after a time by expectoration. In very advanced stages the skin assumes a dirty, brownish appearance, and the hands and feet are covered by a cold, sticky perspiration. As the liver and kidneys become more and more diseased, rheumatic pains appear, and the usual treatment proves entirely unavailing against this latter agonising disorder. The origin of this malady is indigestion or dyspepsia, and a small quantity of the proper medicine will remove the disease if taken in its incipiency. It is most important that the disease should be promptly and properly treated in its first stages, when a little medicine will effect a cure, and even when it has obtained a strong hold the correct remedy should be persevered in until every vestige of the disease is eradicated, until the appetite has returned, and the digestive organs restored to a healthy condition. The surest and most effectual remedy for this

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

distressing complaint is "Seigel's Curative Syrup," a vegetable preparation sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the world, and by the proprietors, A. J. White, Limited, 17, Farringdon Road, London, E.C. This Syrup strikes at the very foundation of the disease, and drives it, root and branch, out of the system.

Market Place, Pocklington, York,
October 2nd, 1882.

Sir,—Being a sufferer for years with dyspepsia in all its worst forms, and after spending pounds in medicines, I was at last persuaded to try Mother Seigel's Curative Syrup, and am thankful to say have derived more benefit from it than any other medicine I ever took, and would advise any one suffering from the same complaint to give it a trial, the results they would soon find out themselves. If you like to make use of this testimonial you are quite at liberty to do so.

Yours respectfully,
(Signed) R. TURNER.

Seigel's Operating Pills are the best family physic that has ever been discovered. They cleanse the bowels from all irritating substances, and leave them in a healthy condition. They cure costiveness.

St. Mary-street Peterborough,
November, 29th, 1881.

Sir,—It gives me great pleasure to inform you of the benefit I have received from Seigel's Syrup. I have been troubled for years with dyspepsia; but after a few doses of the Syrup, I found relief, and after taking two bottles of it I feel quite cured.

I am, Sir, yours truly,
Mr. A. J. White. WILLIAM BRENT.

Hensingham, Whitehaven,
Oct. 16th, 1882.

Mr. A. J. White.—Dear Sir,—I was for some time afflicted with piles, and was advised to give Mother Seigel's Syrup a trial, which I did. I am now happy to state that it has restored me to complete health—I remain, yours respectfully,

(Signed) JOHN H. LIGHTFOOT.
15th August, 1883.

Dear Sir,—I write to tell you that Mr. Henry Hillier, of Yatesbury, Wilts, informs me that he suffered a severe form of indigestion for upwards of four years, and took no end of doctor's medicine without the slightest benefit, and declares Mother Seigel's Syrup which he got from me has saved his life.

Yours truly,
(Signed) N. WEBB.
Mr. White. Chemist, Calne.
September 8th, 1883.

Dear Sir,—I find the sale of Seigel's Syrup steadily increasing. All who have tried it speak very highly of its medicinal virtues; one customer describes it as a "Godsend to dyspeptic people." I always recommend it with confidence.

Faithfully yours,
(Signed) VINCENT A. WILLS,
Chemist-Dentist,
To Mr. A. J. White. Merthyr Tydvil.
Preston, Sept. 21st, 1883.

My Dear Sir,—Your Syrup and Pills are still very popular with my customers, many saying they are the best family medicines possible.

The other day a customer came for two bottles of Syrup and said "Mother Seigel" had saved the life of his wife, and he added, "one of these bottles I am sending fifteen miles away to a friend who is very ill. I have much faith in it."

The sale keeps up wonderfully, in fact, one would fancy almost that the people were beginning to breakfast, dine, and sup on Mother Seigel's Syrup, the demand is so constant and the satisfaction so great.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,
(Signed) W. BOWER.
To A. J. White, Esq. (1 alt.) 4jy 37

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Kowshing*, for Chefoo—Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Blair, two children and maid.

Per str. *Fushun*, for Canton—Mr. J. W. Andrew.

Per str. *Haeting*, for Chefoo—Miss Spelder, Miss Purple, Miss Lawson. For Newchwang—Mr. E. Smithers.

Per str. *Servo*, for Amoy—Messrs. A. and M. R. Malcampo.

Per str. *Yangtsze*, for Hongkong — Capt. Barr, and Mr. B. A. Brigg.

Per str. *Hesperia*, for Newchwang—D. E. R. Schneider.

Per str. *Fungshun*, for Tientsin—The Hon. J. Russell Young.

Per str. *Genkai Maru*, for Nagasaki—Mrs. Lambuth and child, Miss Lambuth, Messrs. J. M. Pickrell and J. F. Roche. For Hiogo—Mr. Noble. For Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Phillips, Mrs. H. Morriss and three children, Mr. U. Girard. For San Francisco—Mr. Chas. Lange de la Camp. For Liverpool—Mr. R. H. Letchford.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Kowshing*, from Tientsin—Mr. and Mrs. Henderson, Dr. and Mrs. Duncan Main, Messrs. Melentieff, Shoolingin, and Ellis.

Per str. *Fungshun*, from Tientsin—Mr. G. F. Walter.

Per str. *Haeting*, from Tientsin—Miss Howard, Miss Yates, Messrs. Kerwick, and Campbell.

Per str. *Iracunddy*, from Marseilles—Messrs. Liddle and Tooke. From Port Said—Pere de Nattuno. From Singapore—Miss Rosa Felstur, Mrs. Anna Felstur. From Hongkong—M. Patenôtre (French Minister to China), Miss Marchettee and three servants, Mrs. M. Estrella, Messrs. G. Atkemoth, Edmond M. Denat, James W. Elton, Louis Patenôtre, Arnold Vissiere, and Lieut. Zouin.

Per str. *Wuchang*, from Tientsin—General Ignacio Martinez.

Per str. *Nanning*, from Nagasaki—Mr. G. Graham.

OPIUM

RETURN FOR SEVEN DAYS ENDING 30TH JUNE, 1884.

IMPORTED	MALWA. Chests.	MALWA. Weight.	PATNA. Chests.	PATNA. Weight.	BENARES. Chests.	BENARES. Weight.	PERSIAN. Chests.	PERSIAN. Weight.
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels	970½	970.50	1	1.20	7	8.40	..	..
Returned from shore on board H. M.'s Ships	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Imported and transhipped for reëxportation without being stored on board Receiving Vessels or landed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Landed Direct	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	970½	970.50	1	1.20	7	8.40	..	..
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption	69	69.00	151	181.20	51	61.20	..	..

RE-EXPORTED from board Receiving Vessels:—

Description.	Ohlukiang. Chts.	Ohlukiang. Wght.	Wuhu. Chts.	Wuhu. Wght.	Kiukiang. Chts.	Kiukiang. Wght.	Hankow. Chts.	Hankow. Wght.	Chefoo. Chts.	Chefoo. Wght.	Tientsin. Chts.	Tientsin. Wght.	Newchwang. Chts.	Newchwang. Wght.	Ningpo. Chts.	Ningpo. Wght.	Wenchow Chts.	Wenchow Wght.	Foochow. Chts.	Foochow. Wght.	Kowlung. Chts.	Kowlung. Wght.	Total. Ch. Wg. Pls.
Malwa	170	170.00	82½	82.50	36	36.00	51	51.00	16	16.00	55	55.00	9	9.00	140	140.00	..	..	..	..	..	..	558½ 558.50
Patna	20	24.00	..	..	..	..	13	14.40	..	..	..	..	1	1.20	5	6.00	..	..	..	..	2	2.40	40 48.00
Benares	3	3.60	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2.40	..	..	1	1.20	3	3.60	..	..	..	..	..	..	9 9.60
Persian	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	5.00	..	..	5 5.00
Turkey	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.. ..
Total	193	197.60	82½	82.50	36	36.00	65	67.40	18	18.40	55	55.00	11	11.40	147	149.60	..	..	5	5.00	2	2.4	612½ 626.10

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 3rd *July*, 1884.

PIECE GOODS.—A diminishing, tho' still respectable trade in Cotton manufactures continues to be reported; but weakness, unaccompanied as yet, however, by any marked decline in prices, has been the characteristic of the market throughout the past week, and the situation has not been improved by the revived cry of drought in the north, which is seriously retarding the sowing of the summer crops, or by the news of a collision between the French and native forces in the south. Our dealers, for the most part, look upon the latter as a purely accidental occurrence, (having its origin probably in the fact that the Chinese of the extreme south-west may have been ignorant of the recent Treaty), and not likely to result in further trouble. But possibly the with with them may be father to the thought, for fighting is not to their taste, war or any other incident that disturbs trade having no charm for them. In the present instance it is to be hoped their diagnosis may be correct. The drought and consequent fears of a harvest failure is a matter which appeals to the dealers more directly than the other, and one out of which they can infinitely more easily manufacture capital in their dealings with the foreign merchant.

At TIENTSIN, by latest advices, the markets were dull, and prices, excepting in rare instances, barely equal to those ruling here. A good demand for *American* cottons prevailed at NEWCHWANG, a demand which even the recent heavy shipments hither were hardly expected to fill; and the natives were doing a larger business at CHEFOO, a circumstance which probably the next foreign letters thence will confirm. NINGPO continues to draw from this considerably of *Heavy Shirtings* and other goods suitable for dyeing, the river ports, the while, find our local traders keeping well up to the mark in their requirements and clearances.

The Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce has called for the usual half-yearly return of stocks.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Grey Shirtings.—8¼lbs.—Demand has been fitful and slow, and the sales few (not much over 15,000 pieces in the aggregate) and small, but the quotations in private have remained fairly steady on the level of those given last mail day, the auctions of yesterday and the day previous, however, developing signs of easiness. *Black Cormorant* T1.35, *Single* and *Double Feather* T1.40 and T1.65, *Blue Globe* T1.41, *Large Blue Lion and Flag* T1.45, *Red Tea Caddy* and *Blue Butterfly* T1.56, *Blue Joss* T1.59, *Black Triple Cash* T1.61, and BX *Dragon and Phœnix* the same, and *Blue Dragon and Old Man* T1.64, are some of the currencies of the past week.

6lbs.—Continue marketable at T1.00 per piece or thereabout, and 2,000 pieces have been booked at that rate.

7lbs.—More enquiry has latterly been experienced, but it is more apparent than real, and it has been more widely felt by reason that buyers have had to range the settlement in order to fill their wants, there being so few holders of the weight in the place. Sales 2,500 to 3,000 pieces. Rates T1.18½ for *Blue Artillery*, T1.22½ for *Green Stag Head*, &c.

9¾ a 10lbs.—A falling away is noticeable here. The clearances have been considerable, but the total of the week's sales as reported does not amount to 3,000 pieces, and the market closes weakly, the desire to sell on the part of holders being apparently on the increase.

12lbs.—About the usual weekly compliment (between 2,000 and 3,000 pieces) has been taken, but inasmuch as "mildew" still plays an important part in the regulation of prices as between the seller and the buyer it is difficult to give a true quotation for the cloth. Suffice it that the holder is considerate in his estimate of the allowance to be made, being very careful to secure his customer, and very wisely so.

White Shirtings.—There is likewise less to record under this heading. 72-reeds and higher have been asked for, but at very low prices and only a few have been booked. In 64-reed, the business reported is under 5,000 pieces, with *Red Tchee Ling* and *Tarping Eagle* still standing quoted T1.70 and T1.80 per piece. *Irishes* (fine) have been dealt in to extent of 8,500 pieces at from T2.02½ up to T2.72½, the maximum being for *Stag* and *Eagle* chops.

T-Cloths.—These still show a fitful and unsatisfactory market, and it is felt that to effect sales in quantity, saving in cases of special demand, lower rates would have to be accepted. In 8-lbs. there has not been a transaction published, and the business in 7-lbs. is estimated at 14,000 pieces for the week, the latest quotations being returned at T1.06 for T.T.X., T1.08 for *Gold Dog*, T1.14 for *Red Anchor*, T1.22½ for X.X. *Eagle*, T1.26½ for X.X. *Dragon and Phœnix*, &c.

Drills.—On the basis of T2.57½ less 1% (with, in the cases where re-sales have been effected, a return ex the percentage of 2c. per piece to the real merchant) for P.M.C. *Dragon*, a business in the American import of over 20,000—pieces has been transacted; but a considerable portion of the settlements even on the above terms yet remains on the buying brokers' hands. In *English Drillings* there has been hardly anything doing.

Jeans.—The *American* P.M.C.J. has been the only item dealt in this week, but of that some 4,500 pieces have been settled, the prices receding to T1.87½ per piece, or about T1.86 to the exporter.

Sheetings.—In this branch also the *American* article has monopolised the attentions of the dealers. Some 8,000 pieces of them have found merchants, T2.95 being the quotation for *Indian Head*, of which the sales are mainly composed. There are other chops bidding for buyers on easier terms comparatively, but apparently such are not wanted at the moment.

Fancy Cottons.—*Turkey Reds.*—A further and again a considerable decline in values has been established, but the sales both at auction and in private this week have been larger than usual, and that is probably the principal cause of the drop. See auction particulars for quotations. About 5,000 doz. of *Blue Handkerchiefs* have been placed at T0.40 a 0.41½ per doz. for 23-inch. Another small lot of *Velvets* has been booked at T0.14¾ per yard, and a parcel of 400 pieces 52-yard *Cashmeres* at T3.20 per piece has been published. In *Damasks* business can be done only at auction, and there only at ruinous rates, and, generally, the Fancy Goods department is without improvement, or the symptoms thereof. *T. Reds*—Private sales, 4,000 pieces.

Woollens.—There is little or no change to note in the Woollens market. *Camlets* are as difficult to sell as ever in private, but the auction rates on the whole testified to steadiness until this morning, when a further decline was registered. *Long Ells*, scarlet and assorted, have continued marketable in small lots and have commanded slightly improved prices in private. A large business (about 1,000 pieces) has again taken place in *Russian Cloths*, at from about T15.90 a T17½ per piece, and nearly 400 pieces of *Spanish Stripes* have been placed—B.T.I. *scarlet* and *gentian* realising T0.46¼ and T0.46¾ per yard respectively. Of *Black Lastings* No. 10, the sale of 200 pieces at T6.75 per piece has to be noted, together with a few more pieces of 6-reed at last week's prices, and rather more enquiry for the article generally. In none of our other Woollen imports, however, has there been any business done.

Metals.—Mr. A. Bielfeld says of this market:—Business during the week has been virtually at a standstill and extreme dullness has continued in all articles of import. Lead.—Prices have slackened again, and T3.30 has been accepted for 100 tons L.B. and 50 tons German. At the close Enthoven offered at T3.25, and L.B. at T3.27½, without finding buyers. Nailrod Iron.—Nothing of consequence has taken place in the position of this article, trade remains dull and prices must again be quoted weaker. A sale of 6,000 bundles Belgian, special make, is reported at T1.82½ a 1.85. There has been nothing doing in English and ordinary Belgian. Bar Iron.—Nothing doing. Pig Iron—Is dull and unchanged and stocks remain heavy. Old Iron.—With the exception of a sale of 100 tons boiler tubes at 80 cents., there has been nothing at all doing under this heading. Tinplates.—The market for plain is weaker and no sales have been effected; crystalised and decorated are neglected and difficult of sale at present. Steel—Continues in moderate demand at quotations. Spelter.—No change. Straits Tin.—There has been a small business doing at unchanged quotations. Sales are:—20 slabs Foong Hing; 100 slabs Fok-chock; 100 slabs Sok-kong. Copper & Yellow Metal Sheathing.—Sales have been insignificant and not above the slender temporary requirements. Of Japan copper, 50 piculs ore have been sold at T14.50 and 100 piculs tiles at T15.75. Stocks are now exhausted. Iron Wire—Remains in moderate demand, but sales have not transpired. Quicksilver.—Small sales.

Miscellaneous.—From Mr. Bielfeld's Report:—Matches.—Black safeties of good make are scarce and continue in moderate demand. Sales of Vienna are reported at T10.50. Window Glass.—Steady at quotations. Needles.—Have remained very quiet and a few small sales have been made at lower prices; a resumption of business on a larger scale cannot be expected for some time. Aniline Dyes.—Are dull and neglected. 6,000 decorated tins each 1 lb. orange have been placed at 28¼ candareens; cosine, race horse chop, has been sold at 37½ candareens per 8 oz. tin, and 2,000 bottles each 2 oz. blue, moo chop, were sold at 8½ candareens.

Opium.—Malwa (new) T415, (old) T422, Patna T434, (new) T443, Benares T436.

Kerosene Oil.—A sale of 5,000 cases is reported at quotations, the market has been very quiet and closes with a downward tendency.

Chinese Market.—In Sugar prices are unaltered and the sales reported amount to 6,400 piculs. Pepper—business small in black, in white a decline of 5 mace per picul is quoted. Sandalwood—sales, 300 piculs South Sea, 100 piculs Timor and 50 of Malabar. Flints—sales small. Rice, Cotton and Hides are unchanged in value and no business in them seems to have transpired.

EXPORTS.

Silk.—The London market is advised as dull, and the market here has been falling daily since last mail left, the dealers having been anxious to realize, and the total decline in the price of Teatlees from the rates paid last week is between T12½ and T15 per picul.

Settlements for the week amount to 2,500 bales, of all kinds, of which about 1,500 bales are Teatlees; of Taysaams some 200 bales have been taken, and of Re-reels about the same quantity. There has been a good demand for Waste silk.

Purchases include: Teatlee—Elephants—Red at T337½; Blue at T327½; Black Lion 3½ and Mountain 1 at T337½; Dancing Bear 2 and Eagle Kin-lun at T332½; Gold Stork, Bird 3 and Peacock at T325; Saling at T322½; Almond Flower 1 at T317½; Pa-ling at T315; Ku-kee Kin-ling at T315; Ku Kilin at T310; Gold Kilin at T302½; Market at T280. Hangchows—Lily Flower at T305. Taysaams—White Kahings at T327½ to 310. Green Kahings 1 at T302½; Chincum at T290; 9/12 Moos 2 at T265. Yellows at 212½. Tussah at T105. Re-reels—Best at T410, Market at T320.

Settlements for the season—7,500 bales, against 1850 bales in 1883. Stock—8,000 bales against 25,000 bales last year.

Tea.—Black—From Hankow we hear that the market had been dull, the only buyers being those for Russia. There was no change to note in prices. But little has been done here during the week, the news of the early sales in London of tea ex *Glenogle* having had a very depressing influence upon our buyers. Of the settlements recorded the principal part is composed of second crop Ningchow, some parcels showing a decline of one to one and a half tael per picul.

Settlements for the week amount to 7,115 half-chests—Ningchow at T15 to T26½, Hoihow at T13 to T16½, Kesmun at T21½, Towyuen at T15½, Waisan at T14, Shantsam at T11—making a total of this season of 18,082 half-chests against 16,973 last year.

Green—is in less demand, buyers for early shipment having supplied their wants. Pingsueys, common to fair, are about one tael cheaper than opening rates, and some late settlements of good medium show a reduction of one and a half tael from early offers—finest do not show any material change. Fychows, no change to report.

Settlements—2,205 half-chests and 6,865 boxes Pingsuey at T13 a 30 proportion; 966 half-chests Fychow at T24½ a 33, proportion; 98 half-chests Shanghai packed at T28, proportion.

Stock—5847 half-chests and 14,37½ boxes Pingsuey; 1951 half-chests Fychow and Moyune; 852 half-chests Shanghai packed. Against 2,552 half-chests and 2,240 boxes last year.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Exchange.—On the opening of business after last mail credits were sold at 5/1⅛ but afterwards some of the banks appeared as drawers, and there being a good supply of private paper, with only a small demand for bank remittances, rates recovered and the market closes firm. On the whole there has been more doing in private bills for this mail than for some considerable time past. Rupees have been sold at 310½.

DAILY QUOTATIONS DURING THE WEEK.

	On London.								France.		Hongkong.		India.	
	T/Transfers.		Bank 4 m/s.		Credits 4 m/s.		Docty. 4 m/s.		France 4 m/s. and 6 do.				Rupees. T. transfers.	
	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.
Saturday, 28th	5.0⅝	5.0⅝	5.1⅛	5.1⅛	5.1⅞	5.1⅞	5.2¼	5.2¼	6 52/55	6.52/55	26⅜	26⅜	309½	310
Tuesday, 1st July	5.0⅝	5.0⅝	5.1⅛	5.1⅛	5.1⅞	5.2	5.2¼	5.2¼	6.52/55	6.54/57	26⅜	26⅜	310	310
Wednesday, 2nd	5.0⅝	5.0⅝	5.1⅛	5.1⅛	5.2	5.2¼	5.2¼	5.2¼	6 54/57	6.54/57	26⅜	26⅜	310	310
Thursday, 3rd	5.0⅝	5.0⅝	5.1⅛	5.1⅛	5.2¼	5.2¼	5.2¼	5.2¼	6.54/57	6.54/57	26⅜	26⅜	310	310¼
Friday, 4th	5.0⅞	5.0⅞	5.1⅛	5.1⅛	5.2¼	5.2¼	5.2¼	5.2¼	6.55/58	6 55/58	26⅜	27	310½	310½

Shares.—In Hongkong and Shanghai Bank stock a fair business has been done during the week, commencing at 120 premium and exchange 73, then at 117, 118 and 119 premium and the same exchange, the market closing rather firm. Shanghai Gas Co.'s shares have been sold at T166; Pootung Wharf at T60; Birt's Wharf at T45; Sheridan Mining at T150; Selangor Tin at $290 and $287½; Perak Tin at $65.

AUCTION SALES.

COTTON GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—8¼-lbs.—17,200 pieces; at (*King-ming* and *Paou-shun* on 1st instant) T1.31½/31⅝ and T1.32½/32⅝ for C.P.H. *Green Lion*, mildewed and sound, T1.37½/37½ for C.P.H. *Blue Lion*, and T1.42½/42⅝ for C.P.H. *Red Lion*, and T1.56/56½ for Dowhurst's *Eagle*, with all faults; (*E-wo*, yesterday), T1.45⅝/46½ for *Green Dragon*; and (*Yuen-fong*, to-day) T1.28 for *Two Man*, T1.29 for *House*, T1.36½ and T1.42½ for *Blue* and *Painted Britannia*, T1.43/43½ for *Red Fish and Dragon*, T1.53½ for *Five Brothers*, and T1.41½ and T1.48⅝ for *Blue* and *Red Three Students*.

6-lbs.—950 pieces *Two Man* at T0.98½/99 per piece.

7-lbs.—2,840 pieces; at T1.27½ for *Red Tea Caddy*, T1.20/20½ for *Blue Britannia*, and T1.23 for *Blue Three Students*.

9⅜-lbs. & 11-lbs.—5,550 pieces; at T2.03⅛/05 for *Blue Tea Caddy*, D.D.D., T1.69⅜/70 for *Blue Britannia*, T1.84/84½ for *Red Britannia*, T2.12½/14 for *Painted Britannia*, T1.87/87½ for *Red Three Students*, mildewed, and T2.16½/17 for *Gold Three Students* (11-lbs.)

12-lbs.—470 pieces *Soldier* and *Beaver*, at T2.36/36½ and T2.36½/37½ per piece.

White Shirtings—E-wo, 200 pieces No. 3 (72-reed), at T1.90½ per piece, and (*Yuen-fong*), 2,880 pieces, 72-reed, at T1.88½/89 and T1.85½/86 for *Red Lighthouse*, dressed and undressed, and T1.09½/09⅝ and T2.05½ for *Gold Star*, dressed and undressed; and 2,480 pieces, 64-reed, at T1.41½/41⅝ and T1.36¾/37 for *Blue Lighthouse*, dressed and undressed, and T1.38⅜ and T1.31½/31½ *House*, dressed and undressed.

T-Cloths—7-lbs.—4,700 pieces; at T1.07½ for *Blue Dragon and Flag*, T0.89½ and T1.11 for *Blue* and *Painted Britannia*, and T0.98½ and T1.28/28½ for *Blue* and *Red Three Students*.

8-lbs.—800 pieces, at T1.28½/29 for *Red Tea Caddy*, and T1.53 for *Gold Three Students*.

Drills—American, 450 pieces C.P.H. (damaged), at T2.35/49, and *English*, 1,500 pieces, at T1.56½ for *Dragon*, T1.98/98½ for *Stag*, T2.22/22½ for *Britannia*, and T2.31½/32 for *Fish and Dragon*.

Jeans.—English, 840 pieces, at T1.17/17½ for *Peacock*, and T1.73½/73½ for *Beaver*.

Sheetings—English, 600 pieces *Old Man Head*, at T2.47½/48½ pieces; and *American* (damaged), 1,400 pieces, at T1.94/2.21 for *Eagle W.*, and T2.12/24 for *Tiger*.

Turkey Reds—Van Tai, 2,400 pieces, at T1.04/03 and T1.02½ for 1¾-lbs. *Gold Dragon* and for *Vase*, T1.10½ and T1.12½ for 2-lbs. *Mounted Turk* and *Vase*, T1.22½ and T1.27½ for 2¼-lbs. and 2½-lbs. *Gold Dragon*, and T1.29½ for 2¾-lbs. *Vase*; and (*Ewo*) 780 pieces *Mandarin* at T1.10⅜/11 for 2.2-lbs., T1.11½ for 2½-lbs., T1.14½ for 2¾-lbs., T1.16½ for 2¾-lbs., and T1.38¼/39½ for 4-lbs.

Velvets.—60 pieces *Woman*, at T0.15 per yard.

Damasks—360 pieces, at T2.46 for *Gentian*, and T2.14½ for assorted.

Arcadian—300 pieces, at T1.30 per piece.

Cotton Italians—300 pieces (imperfects with all faults) up to T1.29 per piece.

WOOLLENS.

Auctions—	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Gentian.	Green, and N. Green.	Orange and Yellow.	Ash & Lav.	White	Purple	Black.	Brown & Mag.	Mauve.	Lt. Gt.	Sales. Pcs.
KIN-MING, 1st inst.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Pcs.
Camlets, C.P.H.p.pce.	.....	8.74/75	9.02/05	9.47	9.34	9.57	...	8.55	...	8.80	9.05	9.14/51	
Sales, pcs.	.....	30	20	10	10	10	...	10	...	10	10	40	150
,, Ram	8.84/85	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
,, Eagle	8.51/54	8.27/28	8.79	9.40	8.96	8.55 & 8.97	...	...	...	8 43	8.60	8.68/71	
Sales, pcs.	250	30	50	10	10	10	...	...	...	10	10	20	410
,, Swan	8.44/46	7.60/66	8.58/61	.....	.....	8.38	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	50	20	20	.....	.....	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
,, Duck	8.40/41	7.54	8.45/48	8.95	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	50	20	20	10	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Long Ells, C.P.H.p.pc.	4.66/68	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	240
Lastings, C.P.H.p.pc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	8.41	...	...	...	200
,, Eleph.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	6.63/64	...	...	...	200
,, Eagle	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	6.11/12	...	...	...	140
S.Stripes, C.P.H.p.pc.	0.45.9/46	.....	0.46.3	.....	.....	...	...	...	0.42.7/43.9	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	60	.....	36	.....	.....	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	108
E-WO, Yesterday.													
Camlets, Horseman p.p	8.11/12	8.36	8.07/09	.....	8.38	...	...	...	...	...	8.10	8.30	
Sales, pcs.	30	10	30	.....	10	...	...	...	...	...	10	10	100
,, H.D.B.p.pc.	9.00/06	8.63	8.87	.....	9.02	...	...	...	...	...	8.81	9 02	
Sales, pcs.	30	10	30	.....	10	...	...	...	...	...	10	20	100
Long Ells, H.D.B.p.pc.	4.63	4.89	.....	4.91	4.64	...	...	4.92/93	4 82	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	100	40	.....	20	40	...	...	60	20	...	...	...	280
,, Sea Stork	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lasting, Eleph.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
S. Stp., H.D.B., p.yd.	0.46.4	.....	0.47½	0.48.2	.....	...	...	...	0.45.8	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	24	.....	12	6	.....	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	48
YUEN-FONG, To-day													
Camlets, S.S.G.p.pce.	8.57½/62½	8.57½	8.62½/67½	.....	9.05/07½ & 9.60	...	...	...	8.45	...	8.60/62½	8.77½/80	
Sales, pcs.	240	110	140	.....	30 10	...	...	...	10	...	30	30	600
,, G.G. p.pc.	8.77½/85	8.92½/95	8.95/97½	.....	9.15/17½	...	...	...	8.80	...	0.30	8.92½	
Sales, pcs.	120	60	70	.....	20	...	...	...	10	...	10	10	300
Long Ells, G.G., p.p.	4.65/66	4.93/91	4.94	4.99	.....	...	...	5.00	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs.	100	40	20	20	.....	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	200
Lastings, G.G., p.p.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	8.05	...	...	8.67½	
Sales, pcs.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	120	...	...	40	160
S.Stripes, T.T.B. p.yd.	0.46½	0.47½/47½	0.47⅝	0.48	.....	0.46½	...	0.47	0.46¾	...	0.48½	...	
Sales, pcs.	132	24	60	12	.....	6	...	6	9	...	3	...	252

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

QUOTATIONS—Duty Paid.			Duty.*
		T.m.c. T.m.c.	Tls. m. c.
G. E. Grey Shirtings—			
6-lbs 29-in 38½-yds.....nom	₱ pc.	0.9.7½ to 1.1.5	
7-lbs	,, ,,	1.1.5 ,, 1.3.0	
Dewhurst's Eagle	,,	None ,, ...	
8¼ to 8½-lbs.....	,,	1.2.7 ,, 1.6.7	
D. Eagle and XX	,,	1.5.8 ,, 1.6.7	
9 to 9½-lbs	nom ,,	1.6.2½ ,, 1.9.5	
9¾ to 10-lbs.	,, ,,	1.6.5 ,, 2.2.0	
Dewhurst's Best	,, ,,	2.1.0 ,, 2.4.5	
11 to 12-lbs English 36 in..	,,	2.0.0 ,, 2.5.0	0.0.8 per pce.
12-lbs American 36 in	,,	2.3.0 ,, 2.7.2½	
G. E. White Shirtings—			
40-yds 36-in 56-rd.....	₱ pc.	1.2.0 ,, 1.3.5	
60-reed.....	,,	1.2.5 ,, 1.4.0	
64 ,, ...	,,	1.2.7½ ,, 1.7.7	
64 ,, Best and 66-reed ...	,,	1.6.5 ,, 1.8.5	
72 to 80-reed.....	,,	1.7.5 ,, 2.2.0	
Best	,,	2.2.5 ,, 3.2.0	
Drills, Am. 40-yd 30-in 14-lbs	₱ pc.	2.4.0 ,, 2.5.7½	
English, ,, 14 to 15-lbs, nom	,,	1.5.5 ,, 1.9.5	0.1.0 ,,
,, Good to Finest, nom	,,	1.9.0 ,, 2.4.4	
Dutch, 14 to 14½-lbs...nom	,,	1.6.0 ,, 2.1.0	
Jeans, Dh., 30-yd. 36in 8½-lbs	₱ pc.	1.5.0 ,, 1.6.5	
English, ,, 8 to 8½-lbs	,,	1.1.5 ,, 1.3.0	0.0.7½ ,,
American ,, Beaver.....	,,	1.4.0 ,, 1.8.7½	
Sheetings—			
Am., 40yd. 36 to 38in. 14lbs.	₱ pc.	2.3.5 ,, 2.9.5	0.0.8 ,,
Eng. ,, ,, 14 to 16lbs,	,,	1.6.0 ,, 2.6.5	
T-Cloths—			
6-lbs 24-yd 32-in Ord., nom	₱ pc.	0.7.7½ ,, 0.9.0	
7-lbs ,, ,, ,, ,, ...	,,	0.8.5 ,, 0.9.0	
6-lbs Mexican.....	,,	..... ,, none	0.0.4 ,,
7-lbs ,, ...	,,	0.9.5 ,, 1.3.0	
7-lbs Mexican Special shape	,,	1.2.5 ,, 1.7.5	
8 to 8½-lbs.....	,,	1.2.0 ,, 1.6.0	0.0.8 ,,
Better kinds and XX	,,	1.7.2½ ,, 1.9.0	
Handkerchiefs—			
Blue, 26 to 32-in.	₱ doz.	0.3.7 to 0.5.4	0.0.2½ per doz.
Brown .....nom	,,	0.3.5 ,, 0.4.0	
Spotted Shirtings—White.	₱ pc.	1.8.0 ,, 2.0.0	0.1.0 per pce.
Dyed, nom	,,	2.0.0 ,, 2.3.0	0.1.5 ,,
Brocades—White, 40-yd ...	,,	1.8.5 ,, 2.0.0	0.1.0 ,,
Dyed	,,	2.2.5 ,, 2.4.5	0.1.5 ,,
Damasks—Dyed, 40-yd, nom	,,	2.5.0 ,, 3.7.5	0.2.0 ,,
Gertian Shirtings.....	,,	1.9.0 ,, 2.2.0	0.1.5 ,,
Chints—Assorted	₱ pc.	1.1.0 ,, 1.4.0	
Blue	,,	0.9.0 ,, 1.1.5	0.0.7 per pce.
Brown.....nom	,,	1.1.0 ,, 1.2.0	
Scarlet	,,	1.2.5 ,, 1.4.0	

QUOTATIONS—Duty Paid.			Duty.*
		T.m.c. T.m.c.	Tls. m. c.
Printed Twills—24/25-yds	₱ pc.	1.3.0 ,, 1.7.0	0.0.7 per 30 yd.
50/52	,, ,,	2.7.0 ,, 3.4.0	
Special ...	,,	3.7.0 ,, ...	
Turkey Reds—			
24-yd 1¾ to 3-lbs. 32-in, nom	₱ pc.	0.9.5 ,, 1.5.0	0.1.5 per pce.
Best	,,	1.4.0 ,, 1.8.0	
Velvets—Black, 22-in ..nom	₱ yd.	0.1.4½ ,, 0.1.7½	0.1.5 per pce.
Velveteens—Black, 18-in ...	,,	0.0.1.0 ,, 0.1.3½	0.1.5 ,,
26-in ...	,,	0.1.6 ,, 0.1.7½	
Blue Drills .....nom	,,	0.0.3 ,, 0.0.4	5 per cent. ad. val.
Dimities—12-yd 37-in	₱ pc.	0.9.0 ,, 1.2.0	0.0.6½ per pce.
41-in.....	,,	1.0.0 ,, 1.3.4	
Muslins—12-yd 42-in.....	,,	0.4.8 ,, 0.7.2½	0.0.3½ ,,
Yarn—Cotton—Nos. 28/32.	,,	65.0.0 ,, 75.0.0	0.7.0 per pcl.
,, 16/24, nom	,,	58.0.0 ,, 64.0.0	
Camlets—English, SS.....	₱ pc.	3.2.5 ,, 3.2.5	
GG	,,	3.9.1 ,, ...	
SSG.....	,,	3.6.5 ,, ...	
HDB ...	,,	3.9.3 ,, ...	0.0.5
CPH ...	,,	3.9.9 ,, ...	
Dutch, 33 to 24-in, nom.	,,	15.0.0 ,, 19.0.0	
Do. 37-in.....	,,	16.2.5 ,, 20.2.5	
Medium & Broad Cloths ...	₱ yd.	0.6.5 ,, 1.1.0	
Spanish Stripes	,,	0.3.5 ,, 0.5.5	
,, HDB	,,	0.4.5.8 ,, 0.4.8.2	
,, TTB	,,	0.4.6½ ,, 0.4.8½	0.1.2
,, HH	,,	0.5.0 ,, 0.5.5	
,, BTI	,,	0.4.5½ ,, 0.4.8½	
,, CPH	,,	0.4.2.7½ 0.4.6.3	
Long Ells—			
Scarlet, 24-yd GG.....	₱ pc.	4.6.5 ,, 4.6.6	
,, ,, HH.....	,,	5.0.5 ,, ...	
,, ,, CPH	,,	4.6.6 ,, 4.6.8	
,, ,, UU	,,	4.7.0 ,, 4.7.2½	
,, ,, HDB	,,	4.6.3 ,, ...	
,, ,, V	,,	4.6.0 ,, ...	0.0.4½
,, ,, Spndries ...	,,	4.2.5 ,, 5.2.0	
Assorted, HH	,,	nom. ,, ...	
,, CPH	,,	,, ,, ...	
,, GG.....	,,	,, ,, ...	
,, UU	,,	,, ,, ...	
Lastings, 30-yd	₱ pc.	5.0.0 ,, 8.5.0	0.0.5
Crape Lastings, 30-yd nom	,,	2.2.5 ,, 5.7.5	
Crape Lustres	,,	..... ,, ...	
Plain Lustres, Black.....	,,	2.7.5 ,, 3.4.0	0.2.0 per pcl.
Orleans—Figured, 30-yd ...	,,	2.2.5 ,, 2.7.5	
Special Colors & Patterns	,,	2.5.0 ,, 3.3.0	

Per Chang of 141 inches.

* Haikwan Sycee Tls. 100=Shanghai Currency Tls. 111.40.

METALS.		Quotations.	
		T.m.c.	T.m.c.
Japan Copper—Tiles, best	per picul	15.5.0 @	16.0.0
,, Ore.....	,,	14.0.0 ,,	14.5.0
Quicksilver—American	,,	42.5.0 ,,	43.0.0
Tin Plates—Parson's.....	per box	4.1 0 ,,	4.2.0
Steel.....	per tub	..... ,,	.....
Bamboo	per picul	3.0.2½ ,,	3.1.0
Tin, Foug Hing	,,	22.0.0 ,,	... ..
Fok Chok	,,	21.1.0 ,,	.....
Chowkung, &c.	,,	20.4.0 ,,	.....
Pig Iron	per ton	14.5.0 ,,	21.5.0
Iron Wire, Nos. 11 a 21	nom. per picul	3.4.0 ,,	3.6.0
,, ,, 14 a 25	,,	3.6.0 ,,	3.8.0
,, ,, 18 a 25	,,	3.8.0 ,,	4.0.0
Iron—Nail Rod—			
Dawes' Best	per picul	2.1 0 ,,	2.1.5
H. Rogers, Sons & Co.	,,	2.0.0 ,,	2.1.0
Sohier.....	,,	1.8.0 ,,	1.8.2½
Belgian	,,		
English—Bar.....	,,	1.7.0 ,,	2.0.0
Belgian— ,, ...	,,	1.4.0 ,,	1.8.0
Lead—			
L B	,,	3.2.7½ ,,	3.3.0
French.....	,,	3.3.0 ,,	.....
German	,,		

SUNDRIES.		Quotations.	
		T.m.c.	T.m.c.
Sugar—			
White, Swatow, No. 1	per picul	4.8.0 @	5.3.0
,, ,, ,, 2	,,	4.1.0 ,,	4.6.0
,, ,, ,, 3	,,	3.4.0 ,,	3.9.0
White, Canton, No. 1	,,	4.7.0 ,,	5.1 0
,, ,, ,, 2.....	,,	4.0.0 ,,	4 5.0
,, ,, ,, 3	,,	3.3.0 ,,	3.8.0
Brown, Swatow, Best.....	,,	2.8.0 ,,	3.2.0
,, ,, Common.....	,,	2.5.0 ,,	2.7.0
,, Canton.....	,,	2.7.0 ,,	3.0.0
,, ,, Common.....	,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.5.0
Pepper—Black	,,	12 5.0 ,,	13.5.0
White.....	,,	16 5.0 ,,	17.5.0
Rattans—Common	,,	3.0.0 ,,	3.5.0
Good to fine	,,	..... ,,	.....
Best	,,	4.0.0 ,,	5.0.0
Sapan-Wood—			
3 pieces to the picul	per picul	1.8.0 ,,	2.6.0
6 & 7 ,, ,, & inf, ...	,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.6.0
Sandalwood, South Sea	,,	2.7.0 ,,	3.0.0
Timor	,,	5.1.0 ,,	8.4.0
Malabar	,,	11.5.0 ,,	17.0.0
Window Glass—			
Good assortment	per box	2.4.5 ,,	2.5.5
Kerosene—Devoe's	per case	1.3.0 ,,	1.3.1
Flint-Stones	per picul	0.4.6 ,,	0.5.2
Cotton—Shanghai, best.....	,,	12.2.0 ,,	13.2.0
Compeek ,, ...	,,	12.0.0 ,,	13.0.0
Rice—Shanghai	p. 150 cat.	2.9.0 ,,	3.1.0
Chinkiang.....	,,	2.4.0 ,,	2.7.0
Hides—Cow	per picul	13.3.0 ,,	.....

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per Str. "*MASSILIA*," cleared 17th June, for LONDON.—Silk—waste 29.69 piculs, pongees 4.20 piculs. Bristles 46.07 piculs. Musk 0.8⅔ piculs. Strawbraid 195.53 piculs. For BREMEN.—Tobacco leaf 275.41 piculs. For MARSEILLES.—Silk—wild 14 piculs, waste 9.47 piculs.

Per Str. "*GENKAI MARU*," cleared 1st July, for SAN FRANCISCO.—Rugs—gostskin 200.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 2nd July, 1884, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 146 to 151, both numbers inclusive.

Goods.	Re-Exports and their Destinations.															
	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Hiogo.	Yokohama.	Leith.	Sundries.
Grey Shirtings † ..... Pcs.	14,310	...	20,040	1,230	4,860	23,010	2,210	11,780	2,600	50	...	...	...	...	9,150	100
T-Cloths ..... ,,	6,895	...	2,530	755	2,100	2,650	4,150	3,380	6,300	845	...	100	...	...	1,650	4,052
White Shirtings ..... ,,	770	...	2,395	720	1,500	14,208	940	4,889	3,100	...	1,000	60	...	230	1,180	6
Drills, English and Dutch ... ,,	375	...	285	...	...	1,010	45	300	1,110	45	60	...	60	...	60	270
,, American ..... ,,	75	30	345	...	...	2,910	150	1,185	10,725	...	...	60	...	...	540	...
Jeans, English and Dutch ... ,,	40	...	...	20	...	720	480	1,090	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...
,, American ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	40	...	...	...	...	...	60	...
Sheetings, English ..... ,,	240	...	350	730	220	2,850	860	240	3,150	...	...	...	...	...	50	60
,, American ..... ,,	260	...	80	60	60	300	1,640	5,020	9,670	...	...	...	...	...	720	...
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	108	...	291	25	133	100	...	78	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades & Sp. S'tings, White ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, ,, ,, Dyed. ,,	...	...	220	...	...	130	130	350	90	...	...	...	...	...	50	...
Damasks, Dyed ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes ..... ,,	318	...	80	...	4	468	58	1,169	...	...	...	...	...	...	220	...
Printed T-Cloths ..... ,,	160	...	200	...	...	100	60	1,260	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Printed Twills ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	80	450	...	290	240	...	...	...	...	...	100	...
Turkey Red Shirtings ..... ,,	100	...	518	100	...	470	1,212	1,513	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...
Velvets ..... ,,	30	...	...	...	30	300	...	...	...	...	30	...	150	...	60	...
Velveteens ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	60	...	...	234	...	...	...	...	...	30	...
Handkerchiefs ..... Doz.	...	...	400	...	800	1,770	...	...	...	...	...	...	480	...	200	500
Muslins ..... Pcs.	400	...	400	...	10	750	...	...	...	400	...	...	...	...	200	500
Dimities ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...
Cotton Yarn ..... Pcls	...	...	...	...	72	351	21	84	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spanish Stripes ..... Pcs.	24	...	18	12	96	258	...	48	...	18	18	...	...	...	90	...
Medium and Broad Cloths ... ,,	...	...	6	...	...	172	20	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	36	...
Camlets ..... ,,	30	...	90	40	160	1,521	...	30	70	50	180	...	...	...	120	...
Long Ells ..... ,,	...	...	...	80	300	630	...	40	220	20	...	...	40	...	80	1
Lastings ..... ,,	...	...	70	...	64	710	50	100	260	...	400	...	...	...	40	6
,, Crape ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lastings, Cotton & Italians... ,,	40	...	450	...	...	544	90	240	210	...	...	...	...	...	40	...
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
,, Figured ..... ,,	...	...	240	...	...	400	40	...	80	...	...	...	...	...	50	...
,, Crape ..... ,,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead in Pigs ..... Pcls	65	...	271	...	174	129	130	...	...	2,454	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	567	...	165	76	...	882	1,449	...	1,512	...	...	210	...	...	...	...

Goods.	Total Deliveries.			Total Imports.			Stocks at date are based on the Chamber of Commerce Returns, dated 1st Jan., 1884.	
	As Above.	For Year From 1st Jany. 1884.	Against last year same term.	Since 15th inst.	For Year From 1st Jany. 1884.	Against last year same term.	*At date Estimated.	Against 4th July, 1883.
Grey Shirtings † ..... Pcs.	89,340	2,242,466	2,514 581	175,180	1,925,506	2,348,105	1,081,000	1,748,231
T-Cloths ..... ,,	35,497	926,721	1,059,661	110,737	1,047,660	1,154,818	884,300	639,800
White Shirtings ..... ,,	31,008	756,202	700,306	71,049	854,303	679,868	407,300	426,400
Drills, English and Dutch ,,	3,620	90,014	110,024	5,325	58,591	51,276	100,200	307,200
,, American ..... ,,	16,020	121,883	90,740	15,000	144,326	143,717	103,400	258,700
Jeans, English and Dutch ,,	2,380	52,520	66,345	4,730	33,693	87,491	24,200	64,500
,, American ..... ,,	200	23,190	7,130	.....	28,320	10,260	35,350	5,100
Sheetings, English ..... ,,	8,750	132,479	127,778	12,480	133,641	70,593	71,700	60,000
,, Am. ..... ,,	17,810	404,121	232,041	20,549	316,874	209,020	177,400	153,600
Dyed Shirtings ..... ,,	735	17,848	45,917	770	53,670	20,561	42,260	6,400
Bro. & Spot. Shts., White ,,	.....	2,525	1,823	.....	4,697	992	6,200	.....
,, ,, ,, Dyed... ,,	970	30,598	21,755	2,817	37,008	16,379	10,960	15,400
Damasks, Dyed..... ,,	40	2,234	2,646	.....	28	4,688	3,800	2,200
Chintzes..... ,,	2,317	75,791	78,253	11,906	117,751	80,108	75,800	40,900
Printed T-Cloths ..... ,,	1,780	25,709	.....	4,491	29,636	.....	.....	.....
Printed Twills ..... ,,	1,160	52,502	55,043	1,596	81,877	58,452	67,650	58,200
Turkey Red Shirtings..... ,,	5,132	145,616	135,349	14,671	130,326	133,259	94,400	109,600
Velvets ..... ,,	600	15,357	11,813	1,914	10,036	9,531	3,750	15,900
Velveteens..... ,,	324	4,046	5,602	360	5,330	5,210	2,600	5,200
Handkerchiefs ..... Doz.	4,150	97,382	103,659	6,769	255,284	104,083	154,350	165,300
Muslins ..... Pcs.	2,660	97,275	107,371	3,847	183,352	59,502	93,000	7,800
Dimities ..... ,,	200	1,652	3,262	.....	.....	1,991	418	.....
Cotton Yarn ..... Pcls	643	18,796	13,665	1,905	19,949	16,355	10,500	7,900
Spanish Stripes..... Pcs.	582	17,798	17,100	1,052	18,444	25,016	14,900	24,300
Medium and Broad Cloths ,,	254	9,226	10,181	334	4,917	20,669	15,800	35,400
Camlets ..... ,,	2,291	55,329	50,092	5,740	65,335	38,525	29,800	29,700
Long Ells ..... ,,	1,461	31,085	32,040	2,420	35,861	35,872	27,900	45,000
Lastings..... ,,	1,700	46,435	42,106	3,230	35,881	49,101	14,500	35,700
,, Crape ..... ,,	120	1,581	1,360	120	660	1,269	1,550	2,200
Cotton Lastings & Italians ,,	1,623	122,063	85,008	10,656	171,217	56,238	90,050	21,400
Lustres, Plain ..... ,,	.....	1,737	4,283	.....	995	2,748	.....	900
,, Figured ..... ,,	810	42,215	46,418	1,999	46,124	53,951	37,900	53,800
,, Crape ..... ,,	.....	360	350	.....	.....	120	140	1,100
Lead in Pigs ..... Pcls	3,223	107,767	80,714	.....	23,076	68,445	.....	.....
Iron—Nail Rod ..... ,,	4,361	81,360	69,726	1,428	95,017	82,323	.....	.....

* Exclusive of Import Cargoes ex *Glenearn*, *Gardner Colby*, *Hesperia*, *Deucalion*, and *Iraouaddy*.
Import Cargo declared *Glenfinlas*, *Cyclops*, *Rosetta*, and *Peiho*, and additionals ex *Massilia*, and *Tracer*.
† Including *English* and *Dutch* 12-lbs.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

4th July, 1884.

Vessels Loading for Foreign Ports.—For London viâ Foochow—s.s. *Bentarig*; for London viâ Suez Canal, calling at Foochow—s.s. *Cyclops* and *Breconshire*; for London viâ Suez Canal, calling at Foochow and Hongkong—s.s. *Glencoe*. For New York, &c., with the mails, &c., M.B. Co.'s str. *Tokio Maru*; for New York viâ Suez Canal, calling at usual ports—s.s. *Strathmore*; for New York viâ Suez Canal—s.s. *Lord of the Isles*.

Exchange.—On London—Telegraphic Transfer, 5s. 0⅛d.; Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 5s. 1⅛d.; First-class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 5s. 2⅛d., 6 months' sight, 5s. 2⅜d.; Private and Documentary, 4 months' sight, 5s. 2⅛d.; 6 months' sight, 5s. 2⅜d. On France—Bank Bills, demand, Frs. 6.41, Credits and Documentary, 4 months' 6.55; 6 months' sight, 6.58. On New York—Credit and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 79½. On Hongkong—Telegraphic Transfers, 27; Private Bills, 3 days sight, 27⅛. On Bombay—Telegraphic Transfers, Rs. 310; Calcutta, Rs. 310. Bullion—Gold Bar, Pekin, 08 touch, ₹105. Silver Bars, ₹111.16. Mexican Dollars, ₹73.175. Carolus Dollars, ₹76.50. Copper Cash, 1,480.

SHARES.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.—The market for this stock has been fairly active during the week, but partly in consequence of the unsettled state of affairs politically, the sales have been at lower rates than those obtaining last week. On the 1st instant, a number of shares changed hands at 117½ premium, since which small lots have been placed at 118½ and 119½ premium, to-day, however, business has again been done at 117½ premium, at which rate we quote them.

Shanghai Gas Co.—Sales are reported at ₹166 per share.

Canton Insurance Office.—There are buyers of this stock at $85, but no sellers under $90.

Birt's Wharf H. C. & W. C. Co.—Business has been done at ₹45.

Pootung Wharf & Godown Co.—Shares have changed hands at ₹60.

Selangor Tin Mining Co.—Good reports from the mine have created a better feeling this week, and shares have been placed at $290, $292½ and $300.

Perak Tin Mining & Smelting Co.—Shares have been sold at $60 and $65. There are buyers at the latter rate.

Sheridan Mining Co.—A number of transactions have taken place at ₹150.

Shanghai Waterworks' Co.—A few shares have changed hands at previous quotations, viz., £30.10.0.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	Position per Last Report. Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	Last Dividend, &c. To Shareholders.	When pd. or due.	Cash Quotations. Closing.
Bank.									
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co	60,000	$125	$125	4,063,361.66	$57,645.23	31 Dec. 83	• £2	1 Mar. 84	117½ prem.
Shipping.									
Shanghai Tug Boat Association	1,000	₹100	₹100	.....	₹8,660.77	31 Mar. 83	4 %	15 May 84	₹90
China Shipowners' Association	1,380	₹100	₹100	.....	‡₹14,373.68	31 Mar. 83	† 3 %	23 Feb. 83	₹75
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co. ...	60,000	£10	£10	.....	‡ £8,570.0.7	31 Dec. 82	None.		30% disct.
Shanghai Shipping Co.	150	₹1,000	₹1,000	.....	‡ ₹2,696.03	31 Dec. 83	None.		₹800
Docks.									
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	₹500	₹500	₹9,500.00	₹198.03	31 Dec. 83	• 2 %	11 Jan. 84	245
Pootung Dock Co.	950	₹100	₹100	.....	₹965.44	31 Dec. 83	• 5 %	11 Jan. 84	125
Gas.									
Shanghai Gas Co.	1,500	₹100	₹100	₹49,000.00	₹19,389.08	31 Dec. 82	• 6 %	15 Jan. 84	163
Compagnie du Gaz	500	₹100	₹100	₹15,477.25	₹14.34	31 Dec. 83	• 6 %	1 Mar. 84	146
Insurance (Marine.)									
China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited.....	24,000	$83.33	$25	$600,000.00	$107,411.65	30 Apl. 83	22 %	31 July 83	$62
North-China Ins. Co., Ld.....	5,000	£200	£50	...	.....	.....	₹11.33	15 Jan. 84	₹290
Union In. Society of Canton Ld.	2,000	$1,250	$125	$500,000.00	$580,391.99	30 June 83	$18.29	20 Oct. 83	$550
Yangtsze Insurance Ass'tion Ld.	8,000	£25	£25	£50,000.00	.....	.....	6 %	18 Jan. 84	₹130
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,500	$1,000	$200	$100,378.44	‡ $3,907.18	31 Dec. 82	• 2 %	2 Jan. 84	$190
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	$250	$50	$55,000.00	.....	31 Dec. 82	† 10 %	1 Jan. 84	$90
Insurance (Fire.)									
Hongkong Fire In. Co., Limited	8,000	$250	$50	$861,000.00	$250,732.56	31 Dec. 82	† $40 %	11 Mar. 84	$335
China Fire In. Co., Limited ..	20,000	$100	$20	$516,978.00	$129,978.34	31 Dec. 83	† 20 %	4 Mar. 84	$60
Wharfs.									
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co...	2,667	₹100	₹100	₹96,280.60	₹927.08	.....	• 7½ %	15 Mar. 84	₹260
Birt's Wharf Hide-Curing and Wool-Cleaning Company ...	2,100	₹50	₹50	₹3,449.46	.....	31 Oct. 83	• 6 %	10 May 84	₹45
Pootung Wharf & Godown Co..	1,750	₹100	₹100	.....	₹2,539.21	31 Dec. 82	3 %	8 Aug. 83	₹60
Mining.									
Selangor Tin Mining Co.....	2,500	$100	$100	.....	.....	.....	None.		$300
Perak Tin Mining & Smelting Co.	5,000	$50	$50	.....	.....	.....	None.		$65
Stonewall (Colorado) Mining & Milling Co.	4,000	$100	$70	.....	.....	... ..	None.		$10
Sheridan Mining Co.....	3,000	₹100	₹100	.....	.....	.....	None.		₹150
Cargo Boats.									
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.....	1,000	₹200	₹200	₹2,881.78	.....	31 Dec. 83	• 4 %	10 Mar. 83	₹150
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co. ...	1,000	₹100	₹100	₹1,000.00	₹343.57	31 Dec. 83	† 3 %	13 Feb. 84	₹75
Miscellaneous.									
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld.,	5,000	£20	£20	.....	.....	.....	None.		£30.10.0
Do. do. new issue	1,000	£5 pm. & £5 call		.....	.....	.....			
Shanghai Electric Co.	500	₹100	₹100	.....	‡ ₹3,525.96	31 May 83	None.		₹20
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co. ...	5,000	₹50	₹50	.....	.....	.....	None.		₹25
The Hall & Holtz Co-op'tive Co.	6,000	₹50	₹50	.....	.....	.....	₹2½		₹45

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1875	₹ 42,800.00	₹ 15,000.00	₹ 100	8 %	Dec. & June.	₹104 nom.
Do. 1878	₹ 24,000.00	₹ 24,000.00	₹ 100	8 %	Do.	₹105
Do. 1882	₹ 60,000.00	₹ 60,000.00	₹ 100	7 %	Do.	₹105 nom.
Do. 1883	₹ 45,000.00	₹ 45,000.00	₹ 100	7 %	Do.	₹105 ,,
Chinese Imperial Government Loan 1874	£ 627,615	£ 62,000	£ 100	8 %	Do.	£110 ,,
Do. do. 1877	£ 1,604,276	£ 114,200	£ 100	8 %	Feb. & Aug.	£105 ,,
Do. do. 1878	H. ₹ 1,750,000	H. ₹ 145,833	₹ 500	8 %	Do.	par & interest,
Do. do. 1881	S. ₹ 4,354,000	S. ₹ 3,238,000	₹ 500	8 %	May & Nov.	₹510

* For half-year. † For year. ‡ A deficit. § Reserve for equalization of dividends.

J. P. BISSET & Co.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction prohibited without permission.